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FACTS ON CRIME IN NORTH DAKOTA

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FOREWORD

"Facts on Crime in North Dakota" is a comprehsensive analysis of crime in North Dakota. The primary source of information in this report is the Uniform Crime Reports reported by law enforcement agencies, collected by the Bureau of Investigation and analyzed by the research staff of the Law Enforcement Council. This report has been prepared to provide legislators, administrators of state, county and city governments, law enforcement officials, the judiciary and the general public with the most reliable information available on reported criminal activity in North Dakota.

Previous reports have shown that North Dakota has ranked 48, 49 or 50th among the states in the crime index rate. The traditional low ranking in the crime index rate should not lull North Dakotans into thinking there is no crime in our state. In the ten years between 1970 and 1979 the crime index has increased 67 percent. There was a 14 percent increase in the crime index between 1978 and 1979. There is an apparent increase in crime in rural areas of the state. However, it is encouraging to note that violent crime, (murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) are decreasing. Property crimes are showing a marked increase in the state.

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UCR CRIME INDEX OFFENSES

The North Dakota Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program involves the collection, compilation, and analysis of crime statistics reported by the various law enforcement agencies in the state. The counterpart of the North Dakota UCR program is the National UCR program under the direction of the FBI. The UCR program has been used nationally for many years measuring the extent, distribution, and fluctuation of crime through a crime index. The crime index is not an absolute measure, but rather an indication of the amount and type of crime occurring in any given jurisdiction. The index is composed of seven crimes recognized as both the most serious crimes in our society and the most frequently reported to law enforcement agencies. The seven crimes are subclassified as follows to provide for comparison and contrast between types of crime:

Violent Crime:	Criminal Homicide
	Rape
	Robbery
	Aggravated Assault
Property Crime:	Burglary
	Larceny/Theft
	Motor Vehicle Theft

In the UCR program, if multiple offenses are reported, only the most serious is recorded in the index.

To allow for comparisons among several areas with differing population sizes over a period of time without the information being biased by population differences, crime rates are computed. Crime rates relate the incidence of crime to population. UCR crime rates are calculated based on the number of offenses per 100,000 population.

$$\frac{\text{Number of Offenses}}{\text{Population}} \times 100{,}000 = \text{Rate per } 100{,}000$$

The UCR Program measures annual fluctuations in criminal activity by comparing the number of crimes reported in any year with numbers reported in previous years. This report presents percent changes as the result of these computations.

Total Crime Index

In this section, we will attempt to place crime in North Dakota into perspective. In order to do this we will utilize the UCR crime index to make several types of comparisons. First, we will review the past decade in terms of North Dakota's annual crime index rate. Next, the North Dakota annual rates are compared to the United States annual rates for the past ten years; thirdly, we will review North Dakota's position relative to other states throughout the 1970's. Finally, the ten years of offense data gathered during the 1970's are graphed to show the trend, and projections are calculated for the years 1980-1985.

In 1970 there were approximately 10,100 crime index offenses reported in North Dakota. By 1979 this figure had risen to almost 18,000, having climbed steadily throughout the decade. Since the population of North Dakota was also undergoing change during this period, a direct year to year comparison does not necessarily provide an accurate assessment of the changing level of crime. It is therefore useful to create a rate for use as a constant. As explained previously, the UCR program does this by computing the number of offenses per 100,000 population. Looking at Table I, we can see that while numbers of offenses increased each year, the crime rate did not always increase proportionately, since population also fluctuated.

TABLE I
North Dakota Crime Index Offenses

Year	Population	Crime Index Offenses		Percent Change in Rate
		Number	Rate	
1970	618,000	10,108[1]	1636	
1971	625,000	12,440[1]	1990	21.6
1972	632,000	12,563[1]	1987	- .1
1973	640,000	13,302	2078	4.6
1974	637,000	13,760	2160	3.9
1975	635,000	14,841	2337	8.2
1976	643,000	16,162	2514	7.6
1977	653,000	16,205	2482	- 1.3
1978	653,000	15,595	2387	- 3.8
1979	658,000	17,931	2725	14.1

[1] Prior to 1973 the Larceny/Theft category among the seven Index Crimes included only those offenses $50.00 and over. In 1973 this category was expanded to include all larceny/theft without regard to dollar value. The total and property crime index figures for 1970-72 are adjusted to include an estimate of larceny under $50.00. It is estimated, for instance, that in 1972 the larceny/theft offenses under $50.00 added approximately 6,000 offenses to the index. Not taking account of this obviously results in gross error.

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The largest increase in the crime rate during the decade occurred in 1971 while the most substantial decrease showed in 1978. The reasons for these fluctuations cannot be pinpointed exactly. One must remember that these statistics reflect the commission of crime only indirectly as they are based on reported crimes. Therefore it may be stated that some fluctuation may occur as a result of a change in reporting habits of citizens or of law enforcement officers. Persons may be encouraged to report offenses through various awareness or prevention programs. Another potential variable is the perceived probability of action on the part of law enforcement.

Although North Dakota's crime rate has shown an increase of 67 percent from 1970 to 1979, it has remained substantially lower than has the rate for the United States (See Table II).

TABLE II
Change in Crime Rate:
North Dakota and United States

	United States		North Dakota	
Base Year	Crime Rate During Base Year	Percent Change from Base Year to 1979	Crime Rate During Base Year	Percent Change from Base Year to 1979
1970	3984	39	1636	67
1971	4165	33	1990	37
1972	3961	39	1987	37
1973	4154	33	2078	31
1974	4850	16	2160	26
1975	5282	4	2337	17
1976	5266	5	2514	8
1977	5055	9	2482	10
1978	5109	8	2387	14
1979	5522		2755	

Percent change computed prior to rounding of rate figures.

An interesting way to view the respective increases in number of offenses across the United States and within North Dakota is in terms of crime clocks as shown in Figure I. This mode of display should not be taken to imply a regularity in the commission of crime, rather it represents an annual ratio of crime to fixed time intervals.

FIGURE I
Crime Clocks - Index Offenses

United States

15 Offenses Per Minute
(Index Offense Every
4 Seconds)

- 1970 -

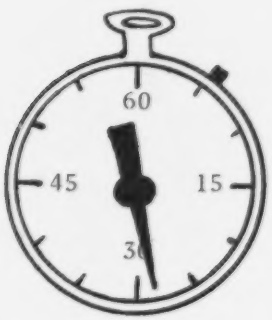
Index Offense Every
52 Minutes

20 Offenses Per Minute
(Index Offense Every
3 Seconds)

- 1979 -

Index Offense Every
29 Minutes

North Dakota



Despite a rising index rate, North Dakota has consistently ranked 48, 49, or 50 among the 50 states in number of offenses reported per 100,000 population. Table III shows a comparison of the annual rankings of each of the 50 states during the past decade. Only West Virginia consistently reports a lower crime rate than North Dakota. The table gives the actual crime rate as well as the relative rankings because, since the rankings are dependant upon one another, any state's crime rate might have remained within the customary pattern for that state while its rank was shifted due to increased or decreased reporting in other states.

In reviewing North Dakota's position relative to other states, it is helpful to look particularly at states comparable in some way. Alaska, Delaware, Montana, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming have similar or lesser populations than does North Dakota while Mississippi, South Dakota and West Virginia share the lowest spots with North Dakota on the ranking by index crime rate.

TABLE III

RANK OF STATES BY CRIME INDEX RATES[1]

STATES	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Alabama	34 (1865)	36 (1893)	41 (2327)	42 (2512)	44 (3000)	43 (3473)	40 (3808)	42 (3713)	37 (3916)	40 (4244)
Alaska	19 (2690)	17 (2880)	14 (4478)	10 (4943)	13 (5240)	9 (6197)	11 (6221)	10 (5898)	10 (6046)	12 (6204)
Arizona	7 (3445)	9 (3510)	2 (5933)	1 (6704)	1 (8222)	1 (8342)	2 (7886)	2 (7747)	2 (7604)	2 (7857)
Arkansas	39 (1604)	42 (1572)	45 (2167)	41 (2540)	41 (3301)	41 (3540)	43 (4307)	44 (3341)	43 (3462)	44 (3620)
California	1 (4307)	1 (4661)	1 (6413)	3 (6305)	4 (6847)	4 (7205)	3 (7234)	3 (7009)	4 (7116)	4 (7469)
Colorado	5 (3662)	6 (3813)	4 (5594)	5 (5496)	7 (6166)	7 (6676)	5 (6782)	4 (6827)	6 (6832)	6 (7051)
Connecticut	20 (2575)	20 (2651)	26 (3403)	22 (3664)	22 (4407)	22 (4957)	21 (5005)	20 (4842)	21 (4930)	18 (5779)
Delaware	13 (2974)	8 (3522)	13 (4524)	14 (4583)	10 (5950)	8 (6668)	9 (6264)	7 (6210)	7 (6354)	8 (6526)
Florida	6 (3600)	2 (4039)	5 (5377)	4 (5960)	3 (7387)	3 (7721)	4 (7017)	5 (6739)	5 (7070)	3 (7688)
Georgia	26 (2207)	25 (2382)	33 (3052)	29 (3430)	31 (3912)	27 (4626)	25 (4809)	28 (4259)	24 (4771)	21 (5417)
Hawaii	8 (3396)	7 (3570)	11 (4612)	9 (4959)	8 (6072)	12 (6027)	8 (6322)	6 (6546)	3 (7136)	5 (7248)
Idaho	36 (1785)	33 (2014)	24 (3420)	28 (3458)	29 (4083)	34 (4144)	31 (4271)	31 (4125)	35 (4015)	41 (4241)
Illinois	24 (2347)	24 (2450)	21 (3791)	16 (4325)	15 (5184)	19 (5382)	19 (5055)	19 (4894)	19 (5018)	24 (5169)
Indiana	25 (2270)	26 (2307)	29 (3232)	24 (3534)	23 (4337)	24 (4911)	27 (4673)	27 (4273)	29 (4339)	31 (4601)
Iowa	43 (1435)	43 (1477)	39 (2532)	37 (2832)	39 (3414)	38 (3909)	36 (4051)	37 (3861)	36 (3980)	39 (4301)
Kansas	28 (2144)	29 (2124)	25 (3405)	25 (3514)	24 (4300)	25 (4747)	26 (4778)	25 (4564)	26 (4544)	28 (4896)
Kentucky	32 (1925)	35 (1936)	43 (2234)	46 (2265)	46 (2760)	46 (3264)	45 (3340)	46 (3013)	46 (3023)	46 (3184)
Louisiana	21 (2405)	22 (2516)	27 (3382)	31 (3403)	32 (3816)	35 (4123)	29 (4361)	26 (4498)	23 (4792)	22 (5359)
Maine	47 (1142)	46 (1348)	42 (2321)	40 (2544)	37 (3600)	37 (3960)	35 (4084)	34 (4075)	31 (4139)	38 (4307)
Maryland	9 (3347)	12 (3391)	10 (4629)	11 (4791)	11 (5650)	13 (5908)	15 (5664)	13 (5700)	11 (5814)	10 (6295)
Massachusetts	11 (3004)	10 (3487)	17 (4107)	15 (4521)	12 (5383)	11 (6078)	13 (5821)	15 (5409)	15 (5350)	15 (5918)
Michigan	4 (3790)	4 (4006)	6 (5364)	6 (5489)	5 (6520)	5 (6800)	6 (6478)	11 (5812)	13 (5594)	13 (6147)
Minnesota	29 (2103)	27 (2291)	22 (3554)	23 (3536)	30 (3931)	30 (4299)	30 (4331)	29 (4231)	30 (4144)	34 (4393)
Mississippi	49 (863)	48 (1115)	49 (1805)	49 (1926)	48 (2249)	48 (2411)	49 (2468)	48 (2587)	48 (2555)	47 (2961)
Missouri	16 (2765)	18 (2739)	18 (3933)	19 (4141)	19 (4788)	18 (5398)	20 (5034)	24 (4581)	27 (4527)	27 (4940)

STATES	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Montana	38 (1637)	38 (1769)	30 (3205)	32 (3395)	28 (4084)	32 (4189)	32 (4262)	33 (4105)	38 (3916)	33 (4461)
Nebraska	41 (1517)	41 (1593)	38 (2628)	39 (2811)	40 (3344)	40 (3614)	42 (3562)	43 (3525)	44 (3441)	43 (3993)
Nevada	2 (3996)	5 (3843)	3 (5850)	2 (6632)	2 (7827)	2 (8153)	1 (8306)	1 (7968)	1 (8287)	1 (8832)
New Hampshire	45 (1193)	44 (1426)	47 (1991)	45 (2329)	42 (3144)	45 (3347)	41 (3611)	39 (3792)	34 (4068)	32 (4579)
New Jersey	17 (2744)	16 (3078)	19 (3840)	20 (4082)	20 (4772)	20 (5144)	18 (5401)	18 (5114)	17 (5207)	16 (5821)
New Mexico	15 (2866)	11 (3471)	8 (4724)	12 (4708)	14 (5213)	14 (5839)	12 (6215)	17 (5188)	18 (5180)	17 (5788)
New York	3 (3922)	3 (4007)	15 (4232)	17 (4307)	18 (4857)	16 (5636)	10 (6225)	9 (6088)	12 (5792)	11 (6205)
North Carolina	35 (1861)	34 (1940)	36 (2659)	38 (2812)	38 (3511)	39 (3817)	39 (3881)	40 (3791)	39 (3882)	36 (4373)
NORTH DAKOTA	50 (846)	50 (1006)	48 (1988)	48 (2078)	49 (2160)	49 (2337)	48 (2514)	49 (2482)	49 (2387)	49 (2756)
Ohio	22 (2377)	23 (2480)	23 (3439)	26 (3496)	25 (4223)	23 (4194)	23 (4948)	23 (4720)	25 (4659)	25 (5130)
Oklahoma	31 (1951)	30 (2100)	31 (3106)	27 (3466)	27 (4096)	28 (4578)	28 (4481)	30 (4160)	32 (4130)	30 (4703)
Oregon	12 (2987)	14 (3185)	7 (5046)	7 (5297)	6 (6166)	6 (6752)	7 (6359)	9 (5987)	9 (6075)	9 (6373)
Pennsylvania	40 (1541)	37 (1826)	40 (2369)	44 (2459)	43 (3054)	44 (3349)	44 (3340)	45 (3118)	45 (3185)	45 (3495)
Rhode Island	14 (2926)	13 (3277)	12 (4553)	13 (4678)	16 (5114)	15 (5644)	16 (5650)	14 (5427)	16 (5262)	19 (5770)
South Carolina	30 (2067)	31 (2080)	28 (3265)	33 (3327)	26 (4165)	26 (4642)	24 (4907)	21 (4837)	22 (4896)	26 (5066)
South Dakota	46 (1152)	47 (1159)	46 (2128)	47 (2176)	47 (2671)	47 (2739)	47 (2640)	47 (2612)	47 (2689)	48 (2960)
Tennessee	33 (1888)	32 (2060)	37 (2646)	36 (3060)	34 (3657)	31 (4271)	33 (4258)	41 (3740)	42 (3690)	42 (4013)
Texas	18 (2706)	19 (2697)	20 (3839)	21 (4046)	21 (4695)	17 (5407)	17 (5464)	16 (5397)	14 (5557)	14 (5925)
Utah	23 (2373)	21 (2529)	16 (4206)	18 (4247)	17 (4950)	21 (5113)	22 (4978)	22 (4251)	20 (4979)	20 (5492)
Vermont	44 (1269)	45 (1410)	44 (2204)	43 (2498)	45 (2875)	42 (3481)	46 (3192)	36 (3964)	41 (3807)	23 (5299)
Virginia	27 (2149)	28 (2125)	32 (3081)	34 (3239)	33 (3815)	29 (4546)	34 (4203)	35 (4024)	33 (4073)	37 (4361)
Washington	10 (3157)	15 (3125)	9 (4703)	8 (5090)	9 (6009)	10 (6141)	14 (5794)	12 (5727)	8 (6116)	7 (6530)
West Virginia	48 (959)	49 (1009)	50 (1437)	50 (1472)	50 (1769)	50 (2109)	50 (2320)	50 (2255)	50 (2270)	50 (2325)
Wisconsin	42 (1514)	39 (1752)	35 (2951)	35 (3177)	36 (3641)	36 (3976)	38 (3901)	38 (3813)	40 (3880)	35 (4388)
Wyoming	37 (1745)	40 (1705)	34 (3032)	30 (3413)	35 (3650)	33 (4156)	37 (3975)	32 (4113)	28 (4495)	29 (4824)

[1]The crime index rate for each state appears in parenthesis under each ranking.

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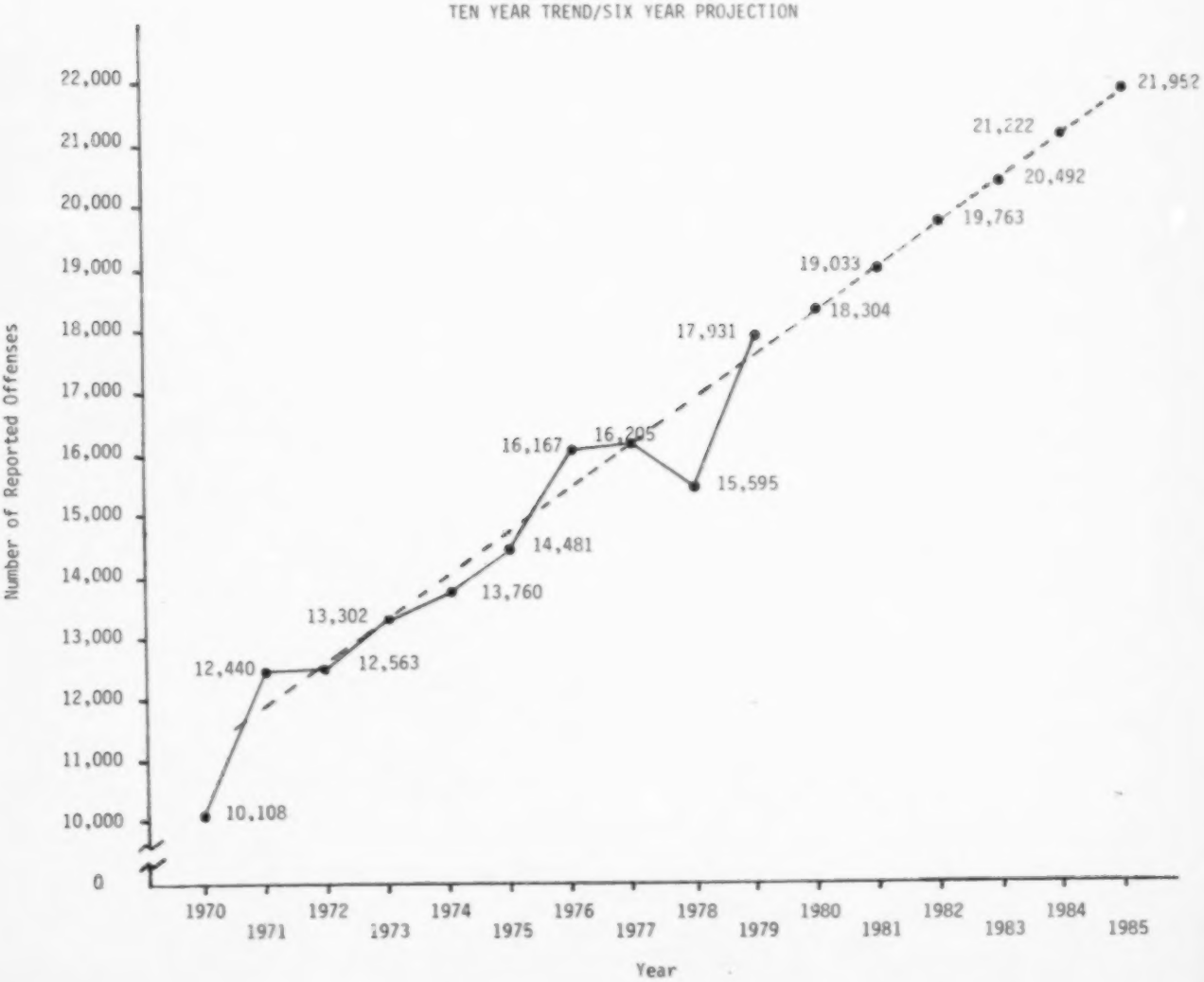
Another way of interpreting the UCR data is to utilize it to establish crime trends.

After the number of offenses reported is collected annually for several years, it is possible to graph those numbers to establish a general trend. Figure II represents the crime index trend in North Dakota for the 1970's as well as projections of index crime levels in the years 1980-85. The projections were calculated using the least squares linear regression statistical technique. As can be seen in Figure II, the crime index trend depicts a generally steady rise with a dip occurring in 1978. The projections show index crime continuing to rise through 1985. It is important to remember that projections are not meant to predict the future with pinpoint accuracy, but rather to estimate a trend or general direction. Thus while we do not necessarily expect exactly 18,304 index crimes reported in 1980, we can expect a rise in the number of reported index offenses.

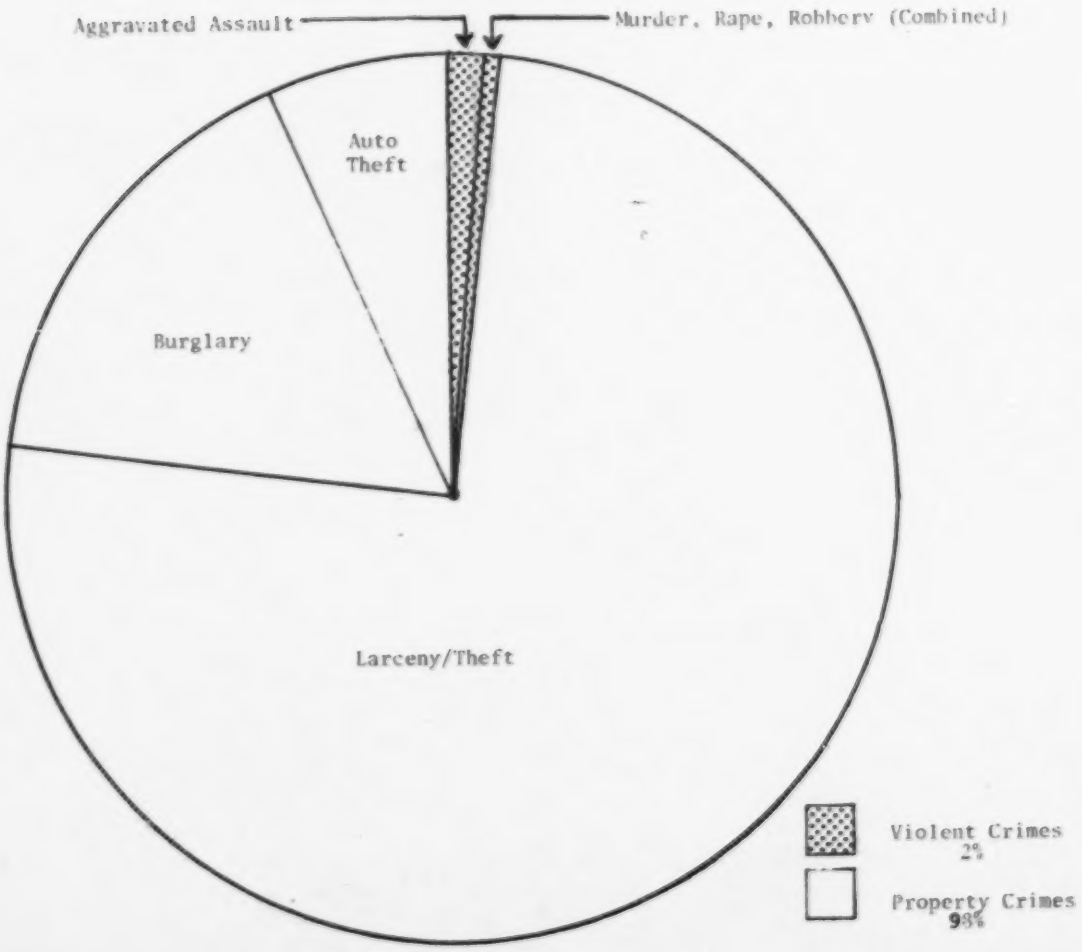
FIGURE II
TOTAL CRIME IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



Now that we have generated some feeling for where North Dakota fits into the total crime picture, let's examine that picture more closely. We have said that North Dakota has one of the lowest index crime rates in the nation. We have also noted a 67 percent increase in that rate during the 1970's. What type of crimes occur in North Dakota? Is all crime increasing or are certain offenses occurring more frequently? In order to answer questions like these, we will need to delve more deeply into the crime index. As we have stated, the UCR program crime index is based on seven offenses: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny/Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft. The first four are generally characterized as violent crimes or crimes against persons while the latter three are property crimes. Thus we can break the index into two parts to look at two different types of offenses.

Figure III presents a proportional view of these two categories and of each of offenses within the categories. Each will be examined in turn, looking first at the aggregate category and then at each offense-type within that category.

FIGURE III
Proportional Display
of
North Dakota 1979 Index Crimes



Violent Crime

As previously shown in Figure III, the four index crimes categorized as crimes against persons represent a very small portion of the total crime index. Throughout the 1970's the national violent crime index rate remained approximately 9-10 percent of the total crime index rate, while North Dakota's violent crimes represented only about 2 percent of its total crime index rate. This is further illustrated in Table IV below:

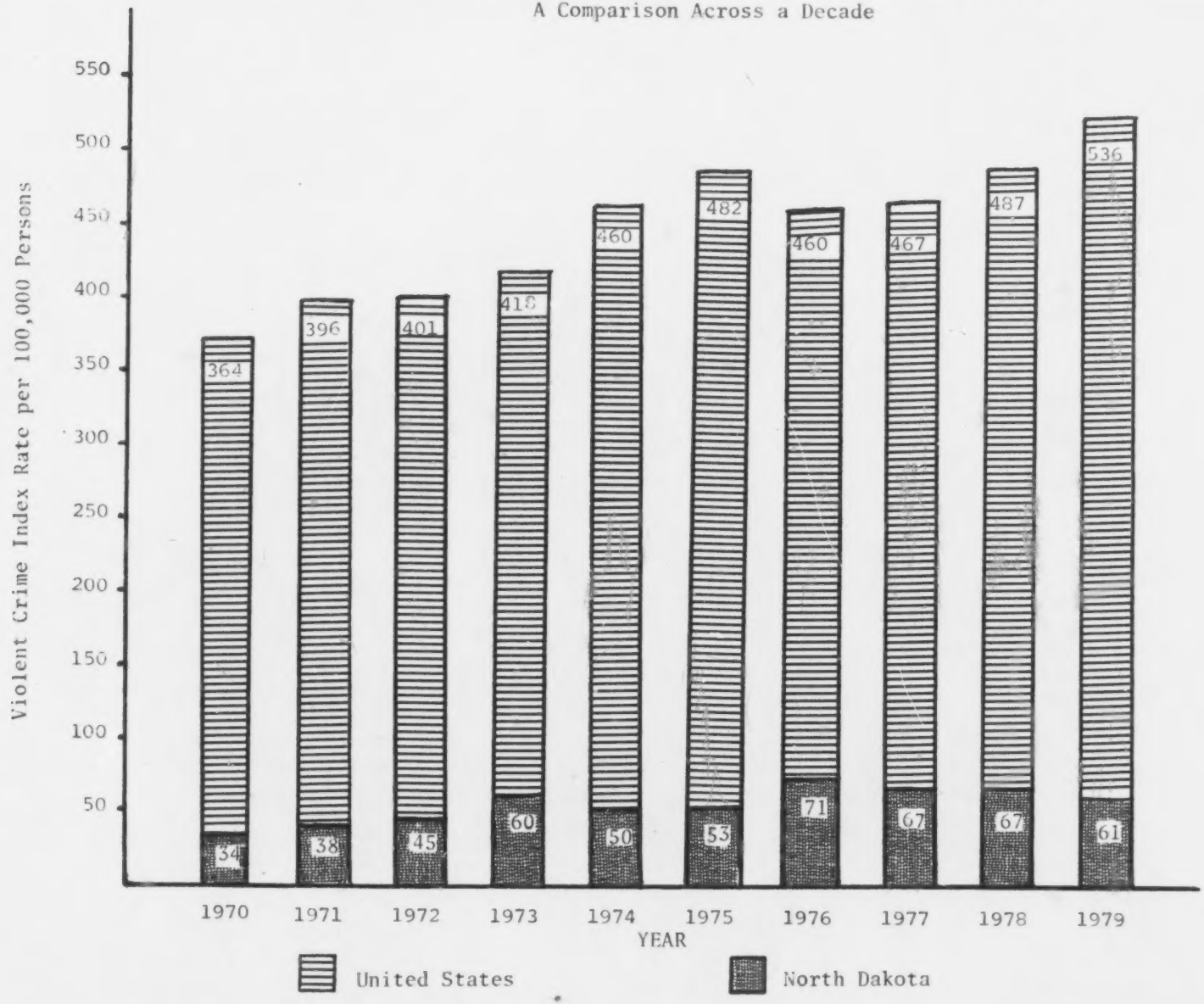
TABLE IV
Percent of Total Crime Index Offenses Represented by Violent Crimes: North Dakota and the United States

	North Dakota			United States		
Year	Number of Reported Total Index Crimes	Number of Reported Violent Crimes	Percent of Index Crimes that are Violent	Number of Reported Total Index Crimes	Number of Reported Violent Crimes	Percent of Index Crimes that are Violent
1970	10,108	211	2.08	8,098,000	738,820	9.12
1971	12,440	238	1.91	8,588,200	816,500	9.51
1972	12,563	290	2.30	8,248,800	834,900	10.12
1973	13,302	389	2.92	8,718,100	875,910	10.05
1974	13,760	319	2.32	10,253,400	974,720	9.51
1975	14,481	336	2.32	11,256,600	1,026,280	9.12
1976	16,167	462	2.86	11,304,800	986,580	8.73
1977	16,205	433	2.67	10,935,800	1,009,500	9.23
1978	15,595	436	2.79	11,141,300	1,061,830	9.53
1979	17,931	398	2.22	12,152,700	1,178,540	9.70

Although the percentage of total index offenses which are violent has remained relatively stable, in comparing the actual numbers of offenses, we see a steady rise annually over the last four years nationally as compared to a small decline over the same period in North Dakota. Still looking at the number of reported offenses in North Dakota, as compared to those reported in the entire United States, it becomes obvious that North Dakota contributes only a small share of the total reported crimes in any year.

Figure IV compares the annual North Dakota violent crime rates with the national rates for 1970 through 1979. As could be expected, North Dakota's rates are much lower than the national rates. In fact, North Dakota has the lowest violent crime rate of any of the fifty (50) states.

FIGURE IV
Violent Crime Rates of the United States and North Dakota
A Comparison Across a Decade



Although the number of violent offenses in North Dakota has approximately doubled over the past ten years, the actual number of violent offenses is so small by comparison that even in South Dakota the violent crime rate is currently over 2.5 times that of North Dakota as can be seen in Table V.

TABLE V
Violent Crime, Selected States, 1979

State	Population	Violent Crime Index	
		Number	Rate[1]
Alaska	406,000	1994	491
Delaware	582,000	3127	537
Mississippi	2,406,000	7786	324
Montana	786,000	1762	224
NORTH DAKOTA	658,000	398	60
South Dakota	689,000	1096	159
Vermont	493,000	908	184
West Virginia	1,878,000	3156	168
Wyoming	450,000	1579	351

[1] Rate per 100,000 population

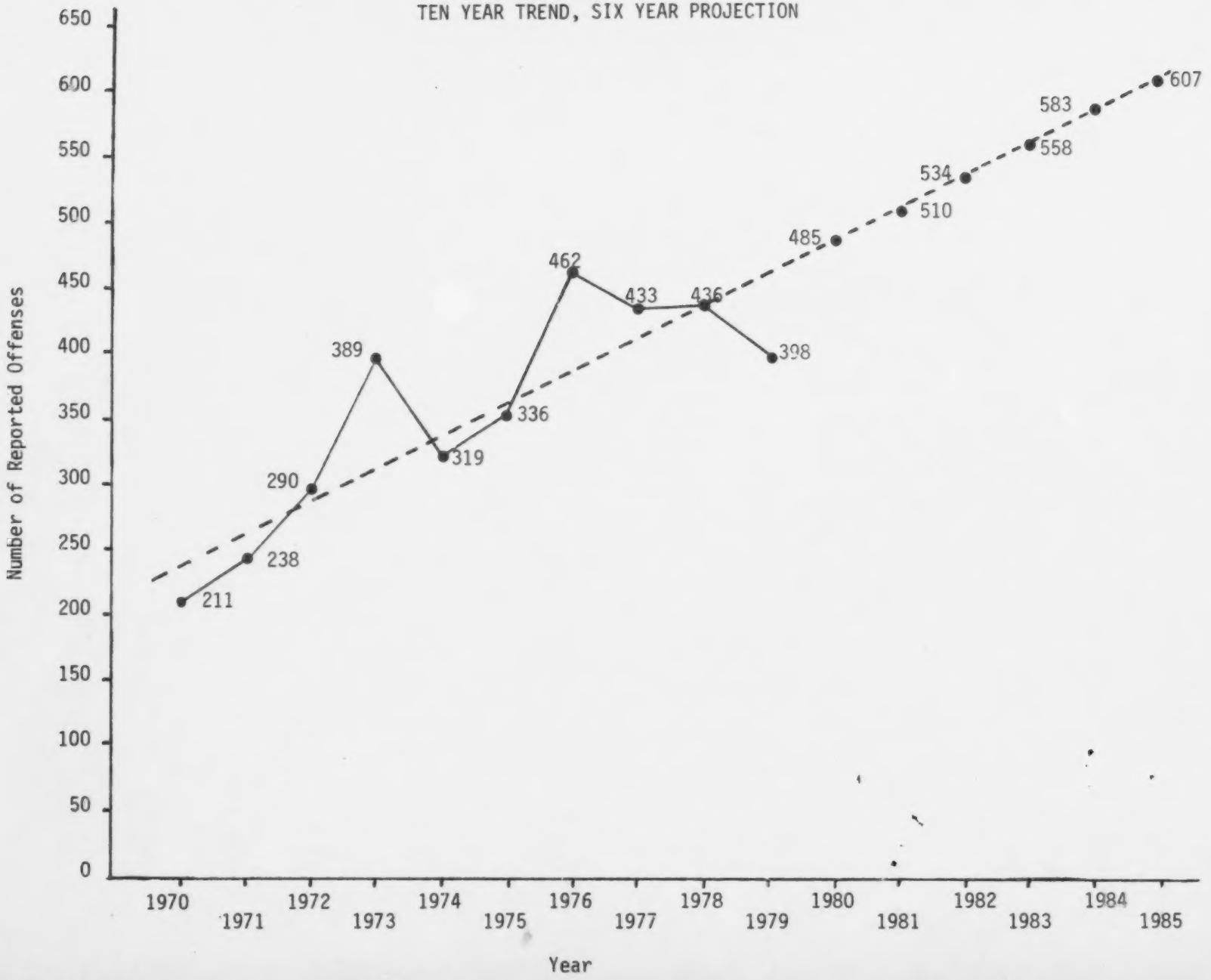
As seen in Figure IV, North Dakota's violent crime rate has remained relatively steady over the last 10 years, and has actually dropped slightly in recent years from a high of 71 offenses per 100,000 persons in 1976. The actual number of offenses per year has also been decreasing over the last several years following a high in 1976. This brief decreasing trend can be seen as a part of a larger pattern in looking at the ten year trend (1970-1979) plotted in Figure V.

This same graph also presents a six year projection (1980-1985). Although violent crime would seem to be on a decline, the least squares linear regression technique used to calculate the projections predicts a pattern of future general increase. Looking at the projection line, we can indeed see that a rising trend is probable given the evidence of the previous decade. (As noted in the discussion about the crime index projections, these calculations attempt to predict a general trend, not the actual number of future reported violent crimes).

After having reviewed violent crime as a category, we will now examine each of the four offenses which together form the violent crime index: Criminal Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault.

FIGURE V

VIOLENT CRIME INDEX, NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND, SIX YEAR PROJECTION

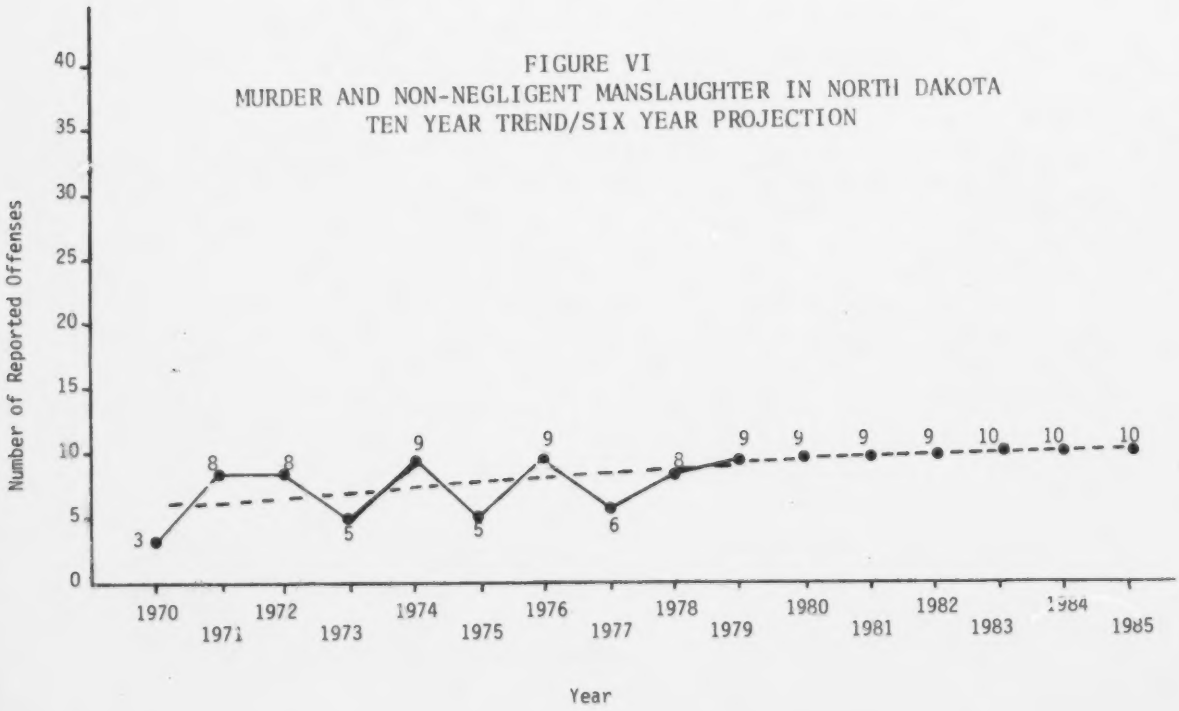


Criminal Homicide - This category includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter and is defined as the willful killing of one human being by another. The classification of this and other crime index offenses are based on police investigations as opposed to determinations by a court, medical examiner, jury or other judicial hearing.

Although violent crime overall was seen to have decreased in North Dakota, we do not find a similar reduction in occurences within the criminal homicide category. In 1970, there were three (3) cases of murder/non-negligent manslaughter reported in North Dakota. By 1979, the number of criminal homicides had tripled. Nationally the number of reported criminal homicides increased by approximately one-third (34%) from (16,000 in 1970 to 21,460 in 1979). In 1979, the criminal homicide rate was 1.4 per 100,000 persons in North Dakota, while the national rate was approximately 10 per 100,000 persons.

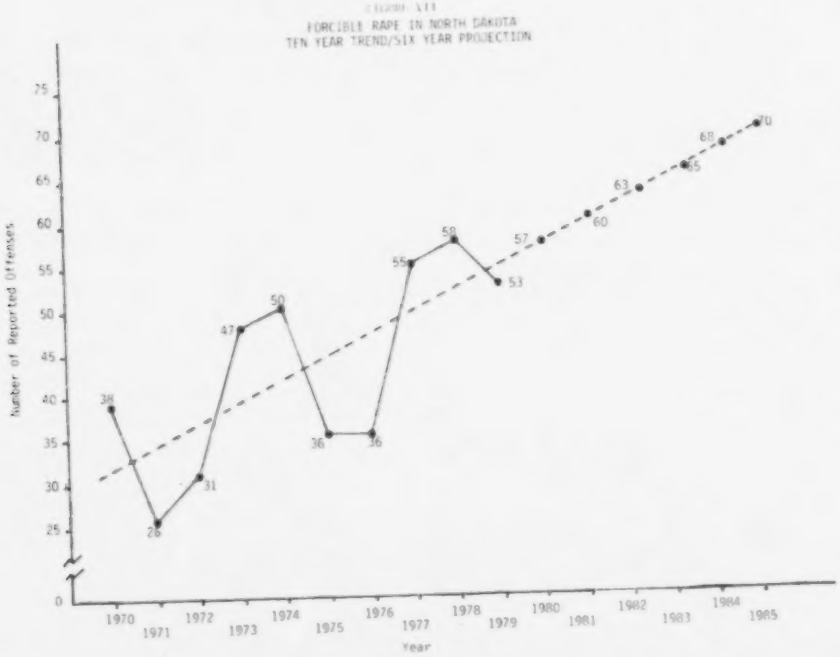
As can be seen in Figure VI, there has not been a steady gradual increase in this category, but rather a "yo-yo" effect from year to year. The projections from 1980-1985 show a horizontal trend. This doesn't mean that the "yo-yo" effect will subside, but rather, merely predicts that the trend will not either rise or fall continuously for several years running.

FIGURE VI
MURDER AND NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



Forcible Rape - The UCR Program defines forcible rape as the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included.

Figure VII shows the number of reported offenses in this category rose by 1/3 from 38 incidents in 1970 to 53 in 1979 (having fallen slightly from a high of 58 in 1978) however, the actual number of reported offenses is still extremely small. Nationally, the number of reported forcible rapes more than doubled from 37,900 in 1970 to 75,990 in 1979.



By UCR definition, the victims of rape are always female. In 1979, an estimated 67 of every 100,000 females in the country were rape victims. At this time in North Dakota, there were 16 reported victims per 100,000 female population.[1] It is difficult to establish a rate of occurence for forcible rape since due to societal constraint the number not reported may be as great or greater in any given year than the number of reported offenses. Nationally, forcible rape is recognized as one of the most under-reported of all index offenses, primarily because of victims fear of their assailants and their embarrassment over the incidents.

Figure VII also projects a continued rising trend in the number of forcible rapes and attempts over the next several years, although the predicted rise is gradual and total number of offenses should remain relatively small.

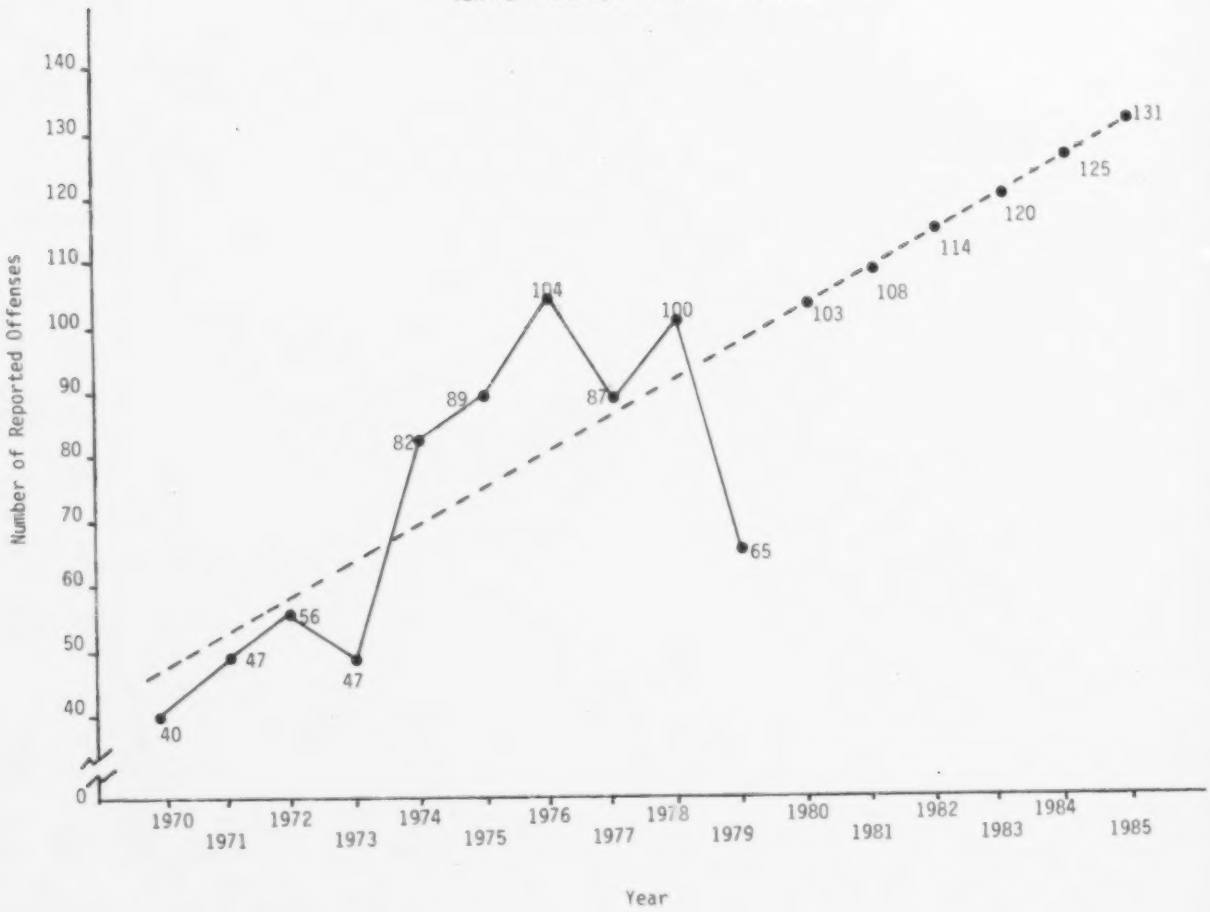
Sixty-two percent or 33 of the 53 incidents reported in North Dakota in 1979 were rapes by force while the remaining 20 incidents were assaults with intent to rape. Nationally in 1979, seventy-six percent of the reported offenses in this category were rapes by force with the remainder being assaults to commit forcible rape.

[1] Calculation based on total population of 658,000 halved to estimate female population at 329,000.

Robbery - Robbery is defined as the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force, threat of force or violence, and/or putting the victim into a state of fear.

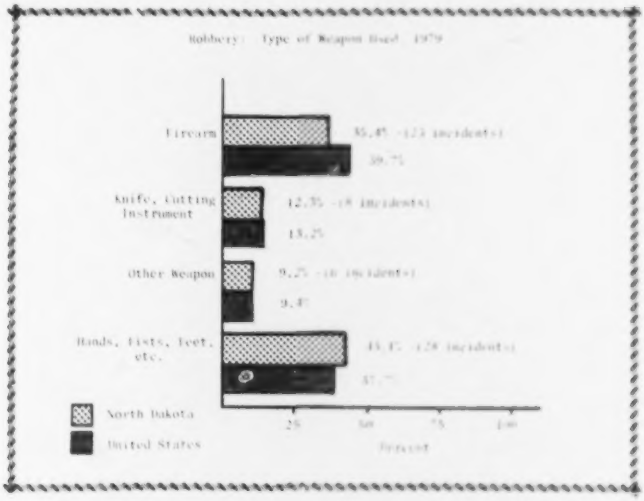
As with all violent index crimes in North Dakota, the actual number of robberies reported annually is comparatively low. Although there were somewhat rapid rises in the number of offenses reported earlier in the decade, the number declined to 65 in 1979 from a high of 104 in 1976. During the decade, robbery increased 62 percent from 40 offenses reported in 1970 to 65 reported in 1979. (See Figure VIII).

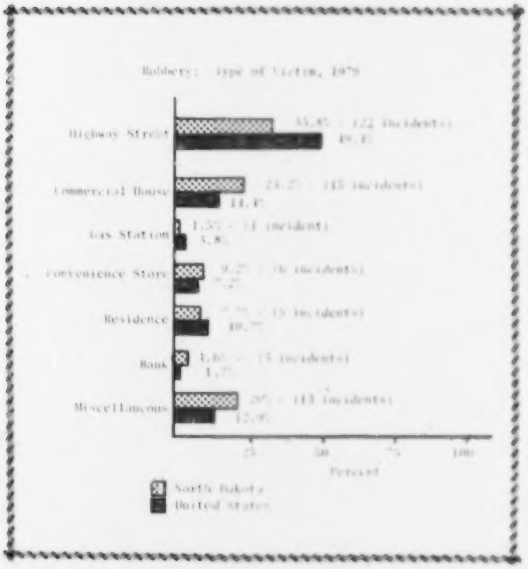
FIGURE VIII
ROBBERY IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



The national robbery rate increased from 172.1 offense per 100,000 population in 1970 to 212.1 offenses reported per 100,000 population in 1979. During these same times in North Dakota, the robbery rates were 6.5 per 100,000 population and 9.9 per 100,000 population respectively.

The UCR Program has categorized robberies in two ways: (1) type of weapon involved, and (2) type of victim (i.e. individual, household, commercial, etc.). The following charts show the breakdowns for the robbery offenses reported in 1979, both nationally and in North Dakota.





The value of property reported taken in robberies in North Dakota in 1979 was $28,689.00, as compared to a $248 million loss reported nationally.

The linear projection calculations of robberies for 1980-1985, illustrated in Figure VIII, show a continued rising trend throughout those years although actual numbers of reported robberies will remain relatively low.

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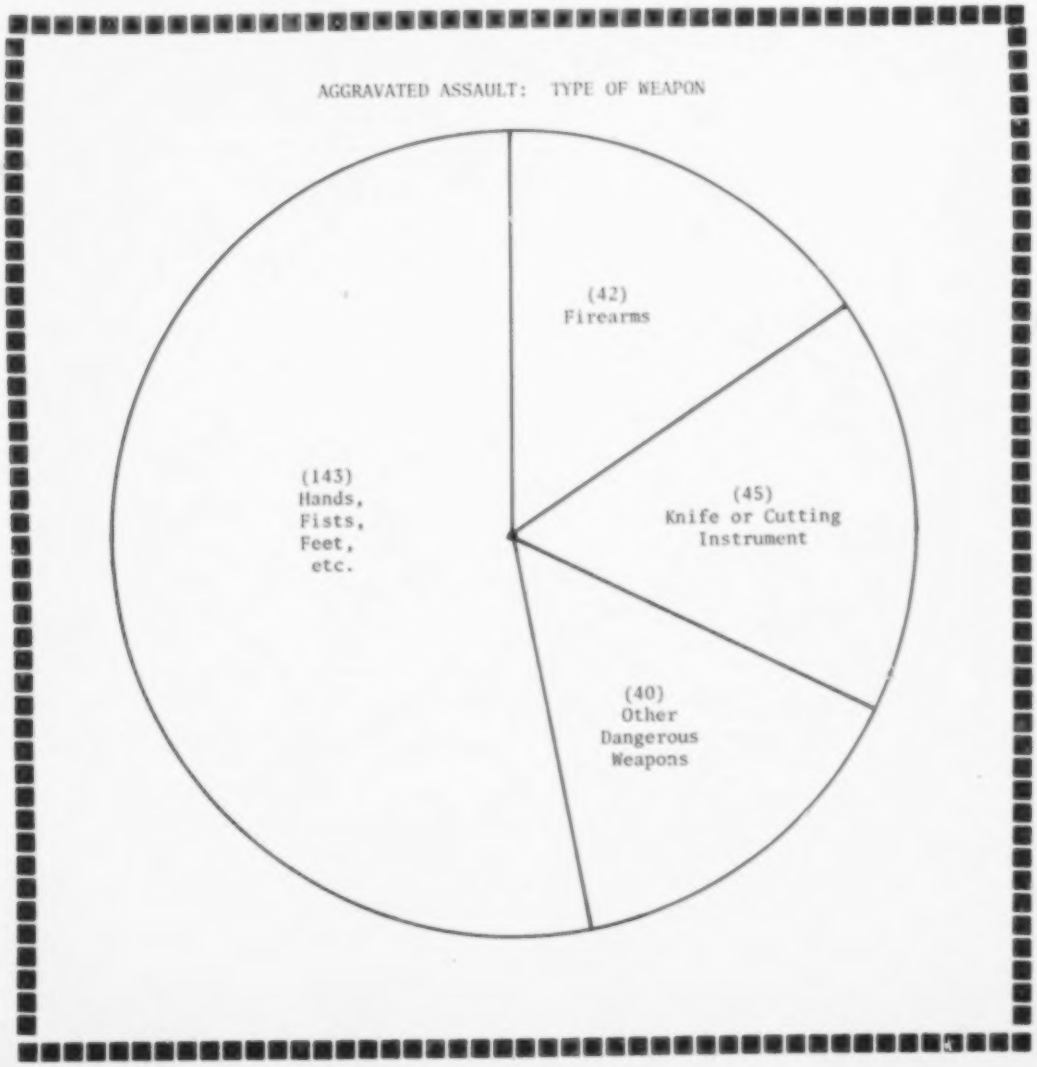
Aggravated Assault - The UCR Program defines aggravated assault as any unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that an injury result when a weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.

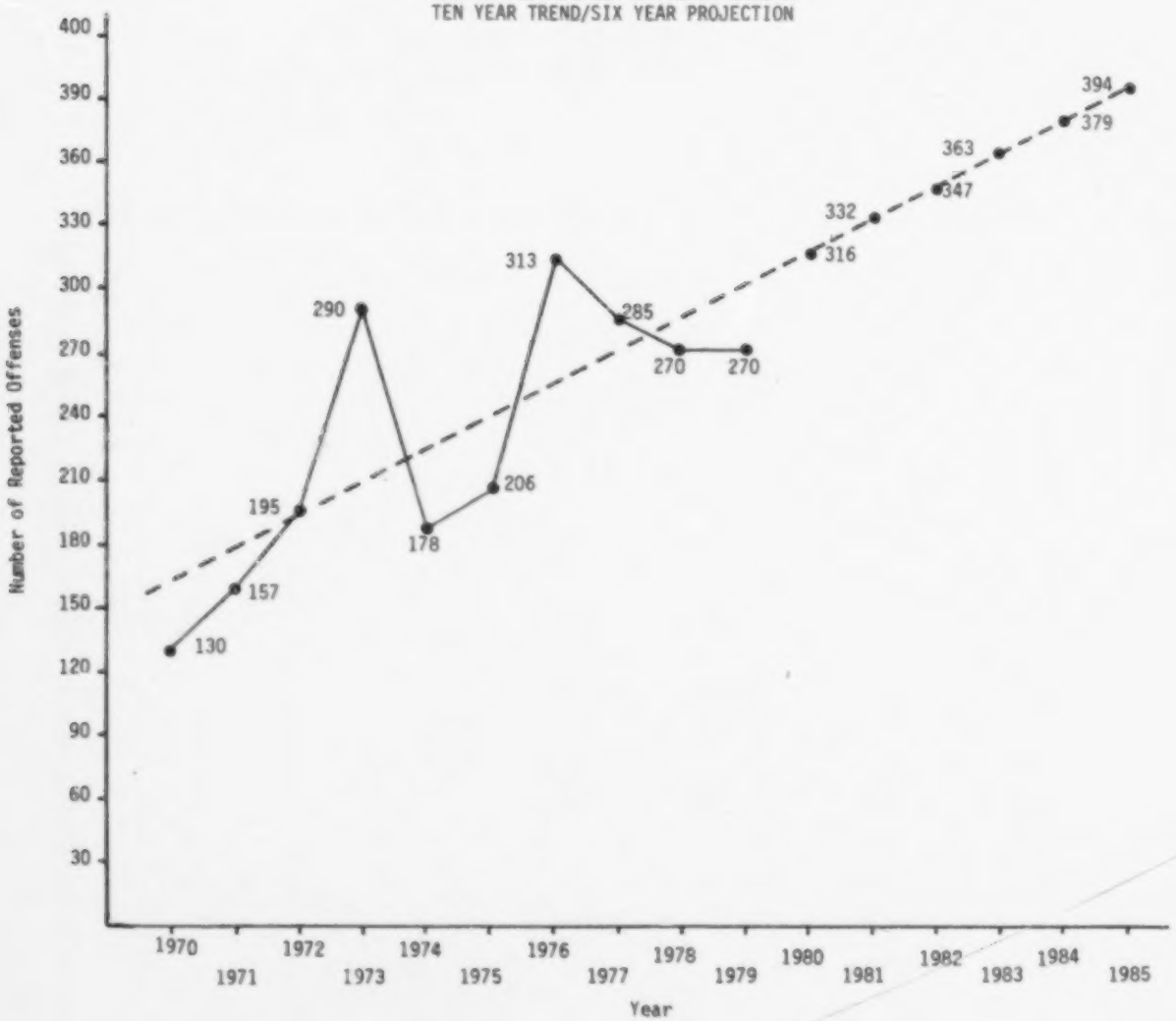
The number of reported aggravated assaults approximately doubled during the decade, rising from 130 in 1970 to 270 in 1979 (having fallen from a high of 313 in 1976). Nationally, reported aggravated assaults also approximately doubled increasing from 331,200 in 1970 to 614,213 in 1979. Translated into rates, these figures show a national increase from 164.8 offenses per 100,000 population in 1970 to 279.1 offenses per 100,000 population in 1979, while in North Dakota the burglary rate rose from 21.0 offenses per 100,000 population in 1970 to 41.0 offenses per 100,000 population in 1979. North Dakota has contributed approximately .04 of 1% of the reported aggravated assaults nationally throughout the decade.

Assaults can be characterized by type of weapon. In 1979, in North Dakota, the 270 reported aggravated assaults resulted as follows:



As Figure IX illustrates, the aggravated assault trend has been generally rising over the years from 1970-1979, although in any given year the number of reported assaults may fall above or below this line. Similarly, the trend projected for 1980-1985 is rising. As explained previously, the least squares linear projection technique creates a straight line pattern. Although any individual year may have a greater or lesser number of offenses reported than that occurring, the general trend indicated is valid.

FIGURE IX
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



Property Crime

As shown in Figure III previously, approximately 98% of North Dakota's Index Crime rate over the past decade has resulted from burglaries, larcenies, and motor vehicle thefts. These three crimes together represent the property crime index. As explained in the section on the violent crime index (see Table IV), the proportion of violent crime to property crime has remained relatively steady over the past ten years. In North Dakota, the ratio is 2:98 while nationally the ratio is approximately 9:91. As with violent crime, although the percentages have remained stable, numbers of reported property crimes change annually. In contrast to violent crime, property crime has risen fairly steadily throughout the decade, as illustrated in Table VI below.

Table VI
North Dakota Property Crime Index

Year	Property Crime Index		Percent Change in Rate
	Number	Rate[1]	
1970	9,897[2]	1602	
1971	12,202[2]	1952	21.8
1972	12,273[2]	1941	-.5
1973	12,913	2017	3.9
1974	13,441	2110	4.6
1975	14,505	2284	8.3
1976	15,073	2442	6.9
1977	15,772	2415	-1.1
1978	15,159	2321	-3.9
1979	17,534	2685	15.6

[1] Rate is the number of offenses per 100,000 population.

[2] Prior to 1973, the Larceny/Theft category among the seven Index Crimes included only those offenses $50.00 and over. In 1973, this category was expanded to include all larceny/theft without regard to dollar value. The property crime index figures for 1970-72 are adjusted to include an estimate of larceny under $50.00. It is estimated, for instance, that in 1972 the larceny/theft offenses under $50.00 added approximately 6,000 offenses to the index. Not taking account of this obviously results in gross error.

FIGURE X
Property Crime Rates 1970-1979
United States and North Dakota

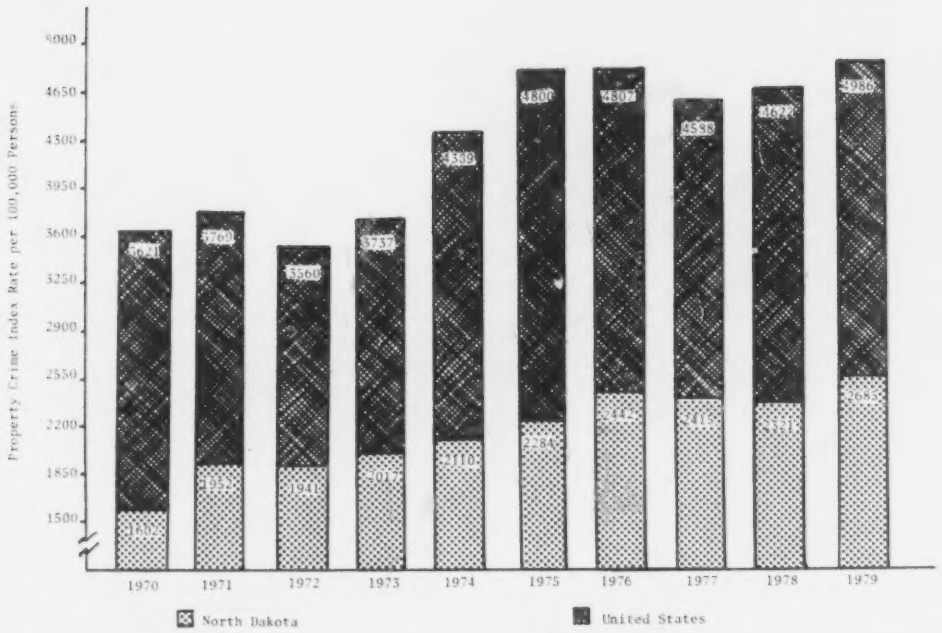


Figure X compares the annual North Dakota property crime index rates with the national rates for 1970 through 1979. The North Dakota rate has remained at approximately one-half the level of the national rate throughout the decade. The North Dakota property crime rate rose 68% between 1970 and 1979 while the national rate rose 38% during that same time as shown in Table VII.

Table VII
Percent Change in Property Crime Index Rates Throughout the 1970's

Time Period	Percent Change in United States Property Crime Rate	Percent Change in North Dakota Property Crime Rate
1970 - 1979	38%	68%
1971 - 1979	32	38
1972 - 1979	40	38
1973 - 1979	33	33
1974 - 1979	14	27
1975 - 1979	4	18
1976 - 1979	4	10
1977 - 1979	9	11
1978 - 1979	8	16

For comparative purposes, it may be helpful to review North Dakota's property crime rate as compared with rates of other states. (Table V presents similar comparisons of violent crime rates).

Table VIII
Property Crime, Selected States, 1979

State	Population	Property Crime Number	Property Crime Rate[1]
Alaska	406,000	23,193	5712.6
Delaware	582,000	34,853	5988.5
Mississippi	2,406,000	63,447	2637.0
Montana	786,000	33,298	4236.4
NORTH DAKOTA	658,000	17,534	2685.0
South Dakota	689,000	19,297	2800.7
Vermont	493,000	25,217	5115.0
West Virginia	1,878,000	40,513	2157.2
Wyoming	450,000	20,129	4473.1

[1] Rate is per 100,000 population.

Although North Dakota has one of the lowest property crime index rates in the nation, the North Dakota rate has risen 68 percent over the past decade (as shown in Table VII), a numerical increase from 9,897 reported offenses in 1970 to 17,534 reported offenses in 1979.

The annual numbers of reported property crime offenses are graphed in Figure XI. Also shown in Figure XI are least squares linear regression projections for 1980-1985. As can be seen, these projections indicate a continued rise in the number of property crime index offenses reported annually.

Our examination of the property crime index in North Dakota will continue with a look at each of the offense categories which together make up the property crime index: Burglary, Larceny/Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft.

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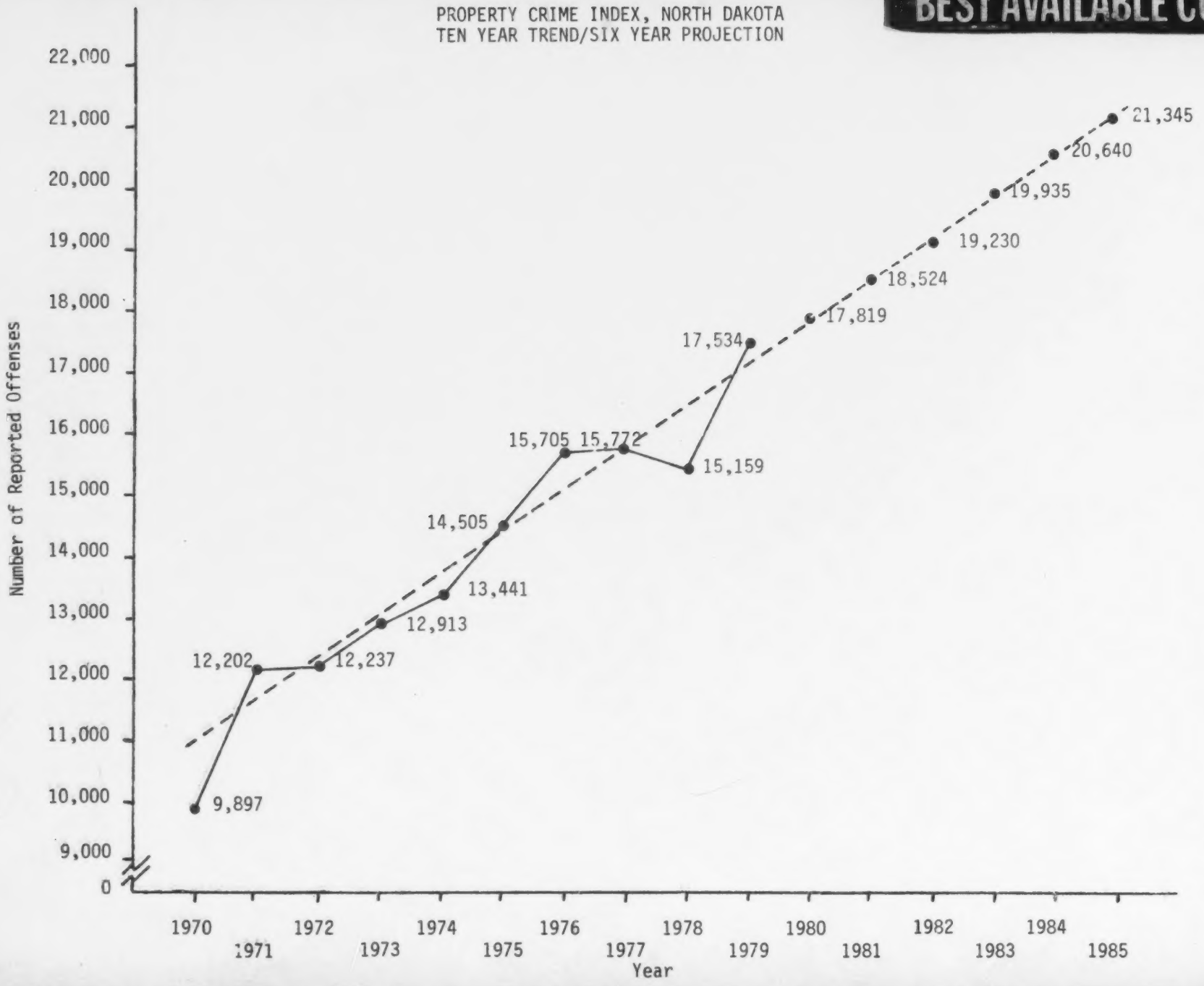
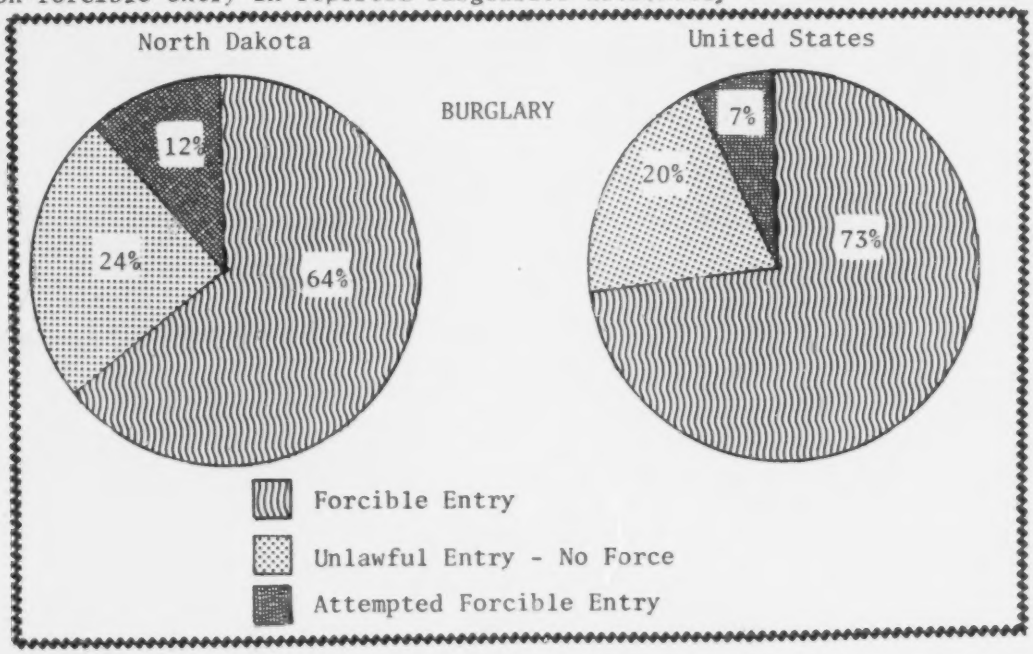


Burglary - The UCR Program defines burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary in the Program is categorized into three sub-classifications: forcible entry, unlawful entry where no force is used, and attempted forcible entry.

The following pie charts illustrate the similarities in proportions of forcible and non-forcible entry in reported burglaries nationally and in North Dakota in 1979:



The number of burglaries reported in North Dakota rose 70 percent from the 1769 offenses reported in 1970 to 3013 offenses in 1979. The greatest number of burglaries occurred in 1975 with 3424 reported. Nationally, burglary increased from 2.2 million offenses reported in 1970 to over 3.2 million offenses reported in 1979. Translating these offense data into rates per 100,000 population provides the following comparison:

	North Dakota	United States
1970	286.2	1084.9
1979	457.9	1499.1

In the United States, as a whole, burglaries have accounted for approximately 30 percent of the property crime index throughout the decade, while burglaries in North Dakota amount to 17-18 percent of the reported property crime index.

Burglary represents a substantial financial loss. In North Dakota alone, burglary victims suffered losses totalling $1,117,956 in 1979, while national losses to burglary amounted to $2.1 billion.

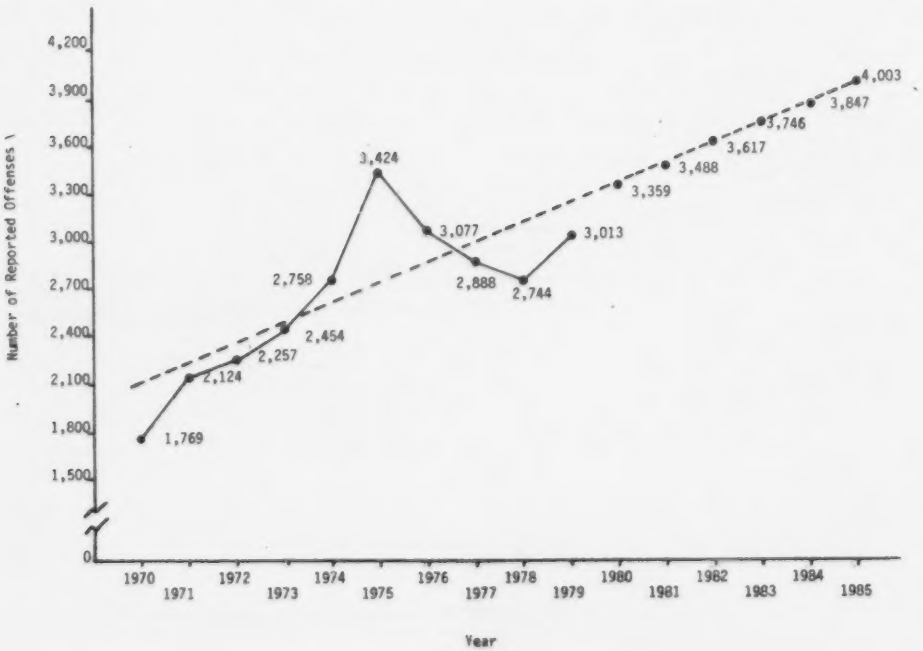
Nationally, residential burglaries accounted for 64% of the total reported burglaries in 1979 with non-residential burglaries making up the remaining 36%. In contrast, only 49% of the 3013 burglaries reported in North Dakota in 1979, (1479 offenses), were burglaries of residential property, as shown in the following chart:

Burglary - Location and Time of Occurence
North Dakota, 1979

	Residence	Non-Residence
Day	670	1092
Night	254	67
Unknown	555	375
Sub-Total	1479	1534

Figure XII graphs the reported burglaries over the past decade, revealing a rising trend which is continued in the projections of burglaries calculated for 1980-1985. (Calculations utilized the least squares linear regression statistical method).

FIGURE XII
BURGLARY IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION

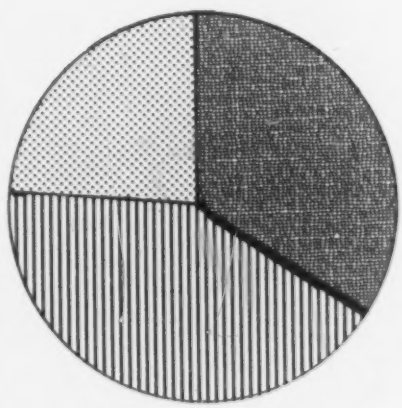


Larceny/Theft - The UCR Program defines larceny/theft as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, purse-snatching, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of motor vehicle parts and accessories, bicycle thefts, etc., in which no use of force, violence or fraud occurs. In the UCR Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category for crime reporting purposes inasmuch as it is a separate crime index offense.

Nationally, larceny/theft accounts for 54 percent of the total crime index and 60 percent of the property crimes. In North Dakota, this high-volume offense makes up approximately 70 percent of the crime index and over 75 percent of property crimes.

There were 7566 larceny/thefts reported in North Dakota in 1970 creating a larceny/theft rate of 1224.3 offenses per 100,000 population. By 1979, the number of offenses reported had risen to 13,460 with the rate rising to 2045.6 per 100,000 population. Nationally, the larceny/theft rate was 2079.3 in 1970 and 2988.4 in 1979.

Larceny/Thefts can be categorized by amount of money involved. The following pie chart illustrates this type of breakdown for North Dakota, (1979 offense data).



LARCENY/THEFT OFFENSES

	Under $50	(4563 offenses)
	$50 to $200	(5806 offenses)
	Over $200	(3072 offenses)
	Unidentified	(19 offenses)

As can be seen in the diagram, the largest number of offenses fall into the category of $50 to $200, although no one cost category shows greatly reduced numbers of offenses as compared to any other. Nationally, in 1979, the average value of stolen property was $256.

When the average value ($256) is applied to the estimated number of larceny/thefts, the loss to victims nationally in 1979 was $1.7 billion. In North Dakota, the 1979 losses were reported as $2,805,873 or .16 of 1% of the total estimated national losses to larceny/theft. While a portion of the stolen goods is recovered, the relatively low clearance percentage for larceny/thefts (19 percent nationally) and the frequent absence of owner identification on recovered property indicate the overall loss due to this criminal activity is not substantially reduced. In addition, other studies have indicated nationally that many offenses in this category never come to police attention, particularly if the value of the stolen goods is small.

The following graph presents a percentage distribution of reported larceny/thefts by type for 1979. North Dakota seems to follow the national average in this distribution. A large portion of these offenses resulted from theft of motor vehicle parts, accessories, and contents. Other major types of thefts were those from buildings, bicycle thefts, and shoplifting.

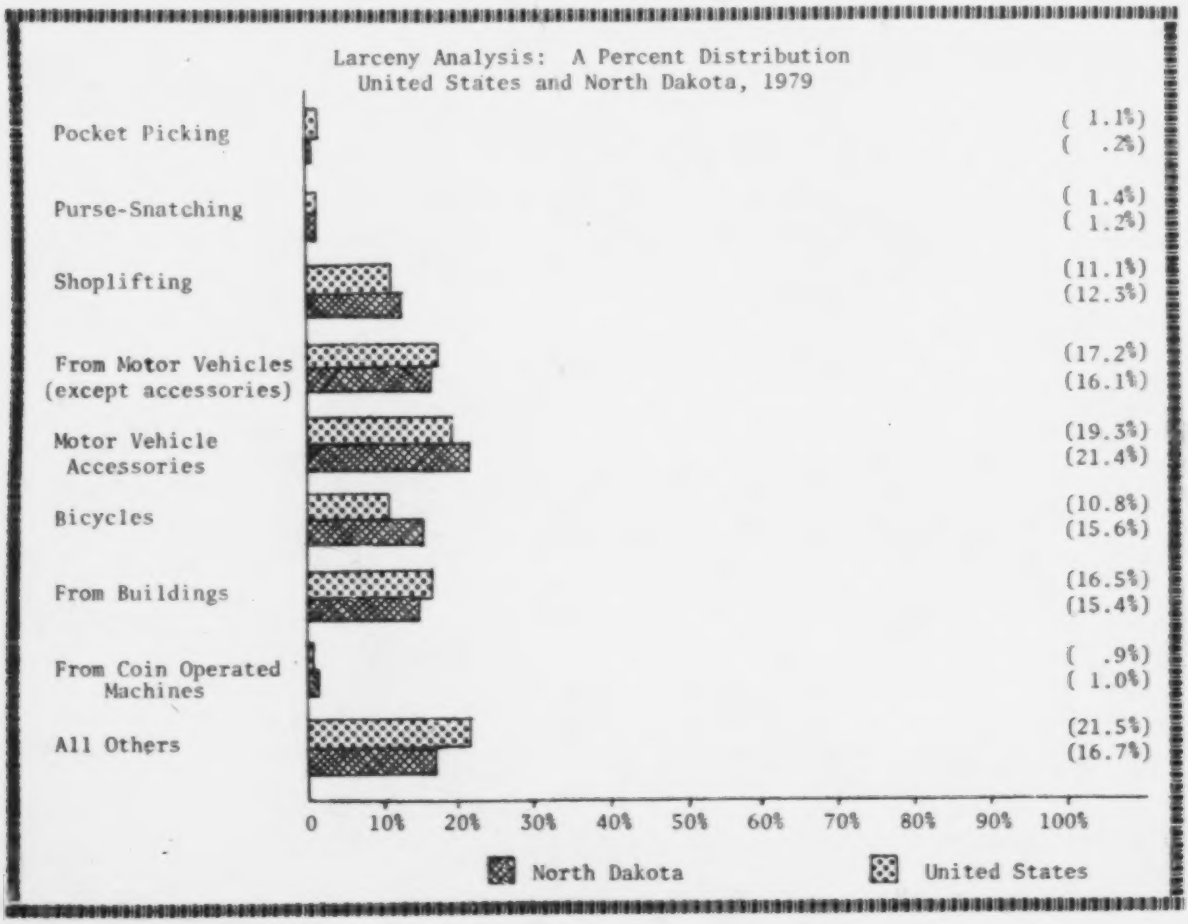
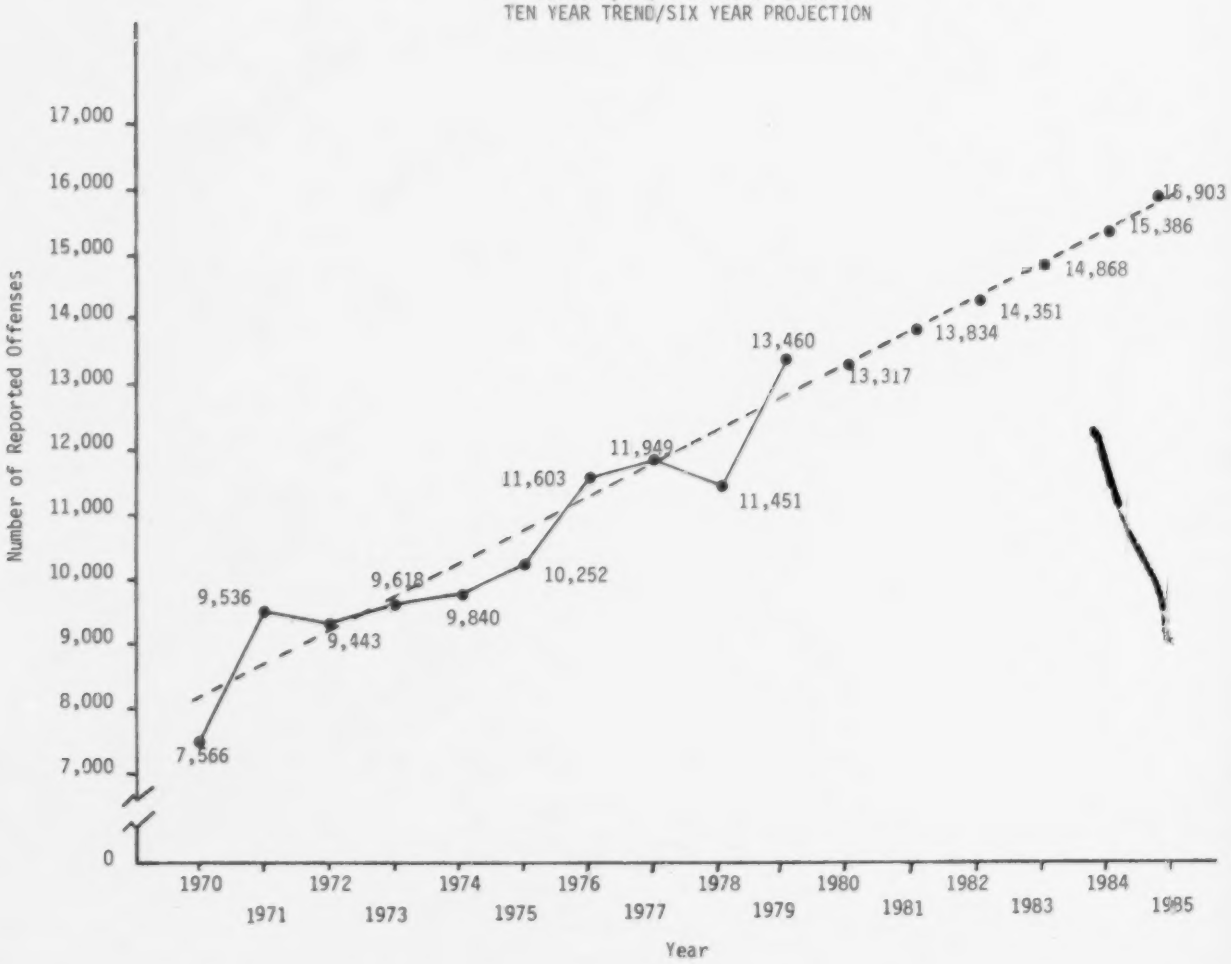


Figure XIII illustrates the trend taken by larceny/theft from 1970-1979. The trend has been generally rising with reported offenses increasing by 78 percent between 1970 and 1979. The larceny/theft rate per 100,000 population increased by 67 percent during this same time.

Projections for 1980-1985 are shown on the same graph. The same statistical techniques (least squares linear regression) was used here as in the projections presented in other sections of this report. This technique smooths the data into a line. Thus we do not necessarily expect to see reported exactly the number of offenses projected for any year, but rather use this information as an indicator, in this case, of a continued rising trend.

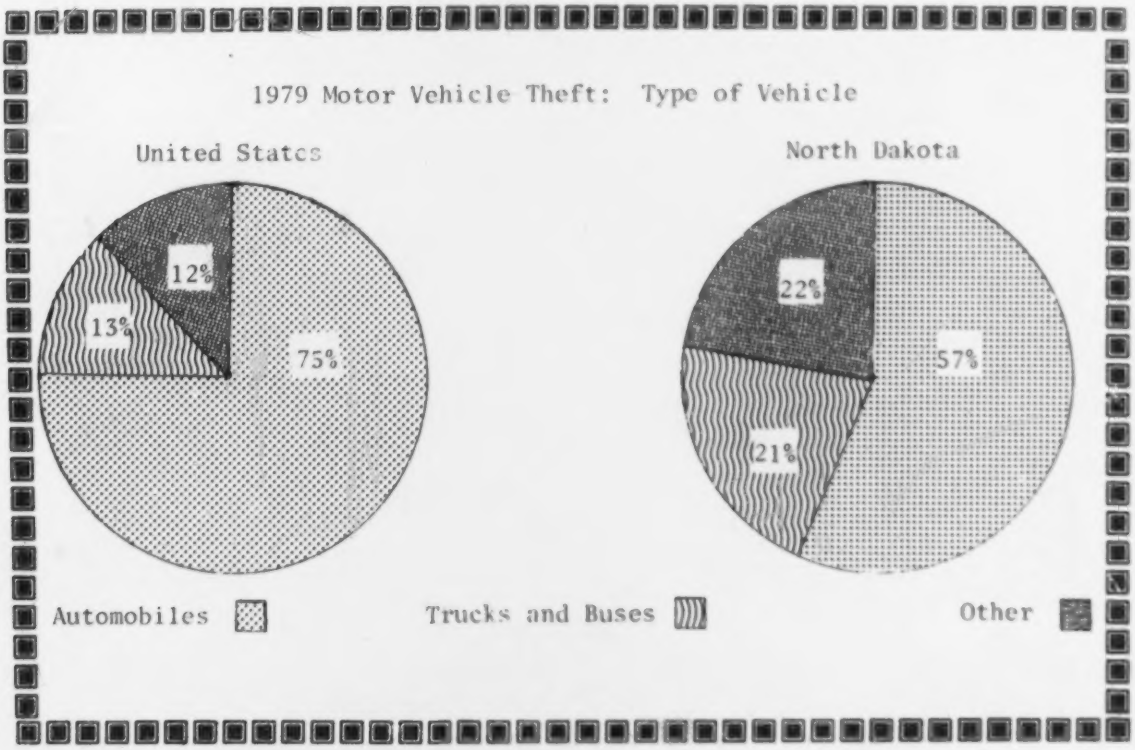
FIGURE XIII
LARCENY/THEFT IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



Motor Vehicle Theft - The UCR Program defines motor vehicle theft as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by those persons having lawful access.

Motor vehicle thefts in North Dakota have risen from 562 reported offenses in 1970 to 1061 offenses in 1979, an increase of 89 percent. These statistics translate to rates of 87.7 offenses reported per 100,000 population in 1970 and 161.2 offenses reported per 100,000 population in 1979, resulting in an increase in rate of 84 percent. Nationally, the motor vehicle theft rate rose 9 percent from 456.8 per 100,000 population in 1970 to 498.5 per 100,000 population in 1979.

Motor vehicle theft can be categorized according to type of vehicle. The following is a percentage distribution by type of vehicle for offenses reported in 1979 comparing North Dakota to the national average.



The category labelled "Other" in the diagram includes all other motor vehicles as limited by the UCR definition. Examples of these include snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor scooters, trail bikes, etc.. The following types of equipment are not included in the definition but rather are reported within the larceny/theft category: farm equipment, bulldozers, airplanes and construction equipment.

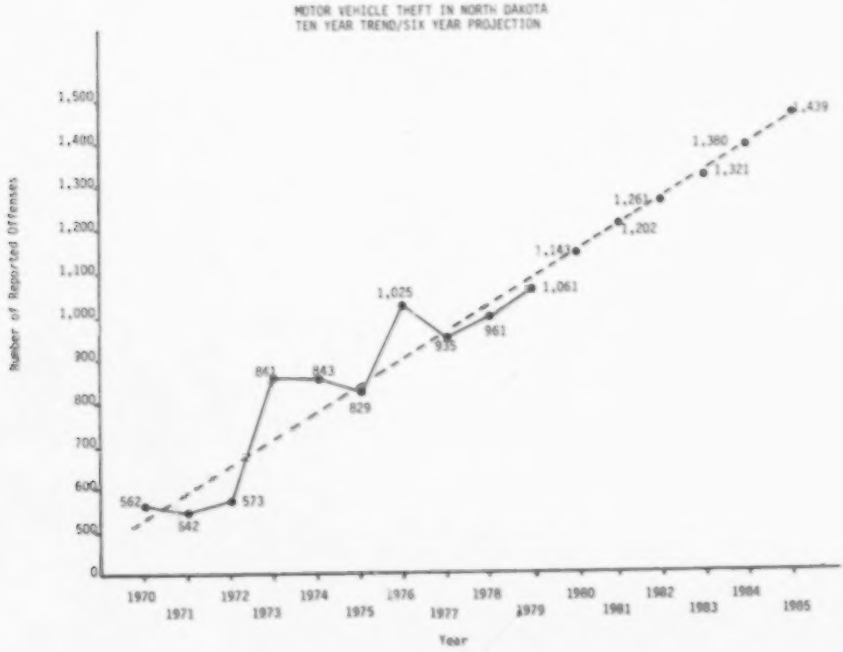
In 1979, an estimated average of one (1) of every 145 registered motor vehicles was stolen nationally, while in North Dakota one (1) of every 625 registered motor vehicles was reported stolen. [1]

Motor vehicle theft is another expensive crime. In North Dakota, motor vehicles valued at $3,101,097 were reported stolen in 1979. Nationally, the average value of motor vehicles reported stolen in 1979 was $2693 at the time of theft. Since motor vehicle thefts are approximated at 1.1 million nationally, this category represents over $2.9 billion in reported losses.

Of the 1061 motor vehicles reported stolen within North Dakota in 1979, 872 were reported recovered. A total of 669 of these vehicles were reported recovered within the same jurisdiction in which they were reported stolen, while 224 were reported recovered in jurisdictions other than that in which they were reported stolen. North Dakota law enforcement agencies also recovered 89 vehicles reported stolen from jurisdictions outside North Dakota.

Figure XIV illustrates the trend of motor vehicle thefts over the past ten years, revealing a rising trend which is continued in the projections for 1980-1985. As has been stated repeatedly, the least squares linear regression statistical technique creates a projection line. Actual numbers of offenses will probably not occur exactly as projected, however, the trend is a valid indicator, and as such is useful to law enforcement, government officials, and others interested in preparing for the future.

FIGURE XIV
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN NORTH DAKOTA
TEN YEAR TREND/SIX YEAR PROJECTION



[1] The North Dakota Motor Vehicle Department reports 674,835 motor vehicles were registered in the state in 1979.

INDEX CRIMES BY CONTRIBUTOR

Now that we've examined the amounts and types of UCR Crime Index offenses reported in North Dakota, let's look at where these crimes are occuring within the state. The following pages present total reported index offenses summarized in various ways:

(1) by individual law enforcement jurisdictions

(2) by county

(3) by judicial district

(4) by rural-urban areas of the state

As discussed previously, comparing raw numbers of offenses reported by various jurisdictions does not allow accurate comparison. Crime rates based on the number of offenses per 100,000 population have been calculated and are utilized throughout this section for ease and accuracy in looking at one jurisdiction, a district, or area as compared to another.

Index Crimes by Individual Law Enforcement Agencies

As the UCR Program has evolved over the years, some of the reporting agencies have changed, some becoming participants and others dropping out. Currently, however, all police departments serving communities over 2000 in population, (with the exceptions of Beulah, Hazen, and Oakes) and all county sheriff's offices report directly to the state each month. Most other municipalities (including the three (3) previously mentioned) report to and are included within the county sheriff's report. These reports describe crime index offenses and other offenses reported to, and arrests made by, the reporting jurisdictions. Here we will be concerned with the index offenses. Table IX summarizes the number of offenses reported by each agency for the years 1973, 1975, 1977 and 1979. This allows us to review local level changes from early in the program as compared to the most recent data available. For county-wide totals, see Table XII in the next section, as Table IX provides only agency totals.

TABLE IX
Crime Index Offenses Reported by Individual Law Enforcement Agencies for Selected Years

Agency		Year 1973	1975	1977	1979
Adams County Sheriff's Office	#	24	16	22	15
	Rate	(645.9)	(423.5)	(578.9)	(405.4)
Barnes County Sheriff's Office		139	61	113	88
		(2128.9)	(1045.4)	(1999.3)	(1375.0)
Valley City Police Department		102	219	229	184
		(1200.0)	(2612.4)	(2917.2)	(2329.1)
Benson County Sheriff's Office		50	67	131	89
		(634.4)	(802.2)	(1559.5)	(1059.5)
Billings County Sheriff's Office		3	--	9	11
		(252.7)	(-----)	(796.5)	(1000.0)
Bottineau County Sheriff's Office		9	46	157	172
		(119.7)	(477.0)	(1617.2)	(1755.1)
Willow City Police Department		1			
		(212.3)			
Bottineau Police Department		43			
		(1433.3)			
Bowman County Sheriff's Office		16	38	43	15
		(400.2)	(979.9)	(2150.0)	(652.2)
Bowman Police Department				101	125
				(4040.0)	(5434.8)
Burke County Sheriff's Office		17	16	30	28
		(371.3)	(374.3)	(681.8)	(651.2)
Burleigh County Sheriff's Office		140	25	146	114
		(1962.7)	(406.5)	(2164.6)	(1106.8)
Bismarck Police Department		1626	1857	2267	2448
		(4457.2)	(4762.8)	(5272.1)	(5563.6)
Cass County Sheriff's Office		351	313	301	270
		(2379.3)	(1830.3)	(1781.7)	(1500.0)

Agency	Year 1973	1975	1977	1979
Fargo Police Department	2769 (4765.9)	2740 (4890.7)	2877 (4897.0)	3165 (5456.9)
West Fargo Police Department	272 (4956.3)	339 (6139.1)	309 (3776.1)	337 (4011.9)
Cavalier County Sheriff's Office	129 (2207.0)	95 (1120.5)	54 (638.7)	72 (1161.3)
Langdon Police Department	124 (5907.6)	133 (4353.5)	81 (2847.1)	83 (3074.1)
Dickey County Sheriff's Office	14 (199.0)	54 (775.9)	27 (360.0)	56 (756.8)
Divide County Sheriff's Office	19 (422.2)	6 (143.7)	12 (307.7)	25 (609.8)
Dunn County Sheriff's Office	21 (480.8)	15 (314.3)	18 (367.3)	44 (916.7)
Eddy County Sheriff's Office	48 (1180.2)	66 (1747.0)	83 (2274.0)	55 (1486.5)
Emmons County Sheriff's Office	24 (348.9)	37 (531.6)	34 (511.3)	72 (1074.6)
Foster County Sheriff's Office	29 (646.5)	30 (628.7)	15 (653.0)	22 (1000.0)
Carrington Police Department			33 (1205.7)	50 (1851.9)
Golden Valley County Sheriff's Office	32 (1207.1)	51 (1972.9)	40 (1600.0)	27 (1080.0)
Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office	153 (636.1)	141 (520.2)	199 (947.6)	168 (800.0)
Grand Forks Police Department	1842 (4344.3)	2216 (6001.4)	1991 (4630.2)	2483 (5708.0)
Grant County Sheriff's Office	13 (265.0)	34 (684.0)	86 (1669.9)	65 (1300.0)
Griggs County Sheriff's Office	27 (663.6)	32 (766.3)	7 (168.7)	43 (1048.8)
Hettinger County Sheriff's Office	32 (603.8)	26 (533.7)	41 (872.3)	5 (106.4)
Kidder County Sheriff's Office	27 (651.9)	34 (795.3)	60 (1428.6)	57 (1325.6)
LaMoure County Sheriff's Office	5 (66.3)	8 (116.6)	14 (209.0)	21 (308.8)
Logan County Sheriff's Office	2 (46.3)	49 (1263.5)	30 (750.0)	37 (925.0)
McHenry County Sheriff's Office	19 (211.5)	45 (514.3)	43 (505.9)	7 (81.4)
McIntosh County Sheriff's Office	14 (248.1)	25 (474.4)	86 (1312.6)	32 (627.5)
McKenzie County Sheriff's Office	39 (640.2)	49 (782.2)	50 (1143.1)	89 (2225.0)
Watford City Police Department			31 (1697.7)	96 (3428.6)
McLean County Sheriff's Office	116 (1002.1)	246 (2151.5)	198 (1584.0)	235 (1835.9)
Mercer County Sheriff's Office	12 (117.7)	47 (738.6)	53 (770.0)	62 (747.0)
Morton County Sheriff's Office	145 (1558.9)	168 (1756.0)	98 (1022.4)	90 (947.4)
Mandan Police Department	289 (2408.3)	412 (3579.2)	554 (3897.8)	741 (5181.8)
Mountrail County Sheriff's Office	28 (337.9)	35 (780.3)	37 (430.2)	33 (492.5)
New Town Police Department				14 (777.8)
Nelson County Sheriff's Office	35 (641.1)	45 (780.3)	79 (1362.1)	34 (576.3)
Oliver County Sheriff's Office	16 (695.7)	24 (937.9)	34 (1360.0)	32 (1280.0)

Agency	Year 1973	1975	1977	1979
Pembina County Sheriff's Office	64 (600.4)	118 (972.8)	137 (1223.5)	173 (1558.6)
Pierce County Sheriff's Office	9 (276.7)	27 (793.2)	31 (993.3)	18 (562.5)
Rugby Police Department	42 (1354.8)	17 (594.4)	67 (1914.3)	59 (1787.9)
Ramsey County Sheriff's Office	117 (2253.0)	161 (3145.8)	116 (1933.3)	97 (1616.7)
Devils Lake Police Department	446 (5868.4)	581 (7167.5)	597 (7832.6)	459 (5884.6)
Ransom County Sheriff's Office	14 (200.0)	14 (192.9)	42 (869.6)	6 (122.4)
Lisbon Police Department			52 (2396.3)	19 (863.6)
Renville County Sheriff's Office	24 (651.6)	-- (-----)	7 (189.2)	42 (1135.1)
Richland County Sheriff's Office	25 (235.4)	50 (459.7)	77 (740.2)	104 (1019.6)
Wahpeton Police Department	292 (4280.3)	173 (2161.7)	441 (5250.0)	437 (5202.4)
Rolette County Sheriff's Office	78 (640.3)	96 (772.4)	98 (759.7)	230 (1769.2)
Sargent County Sheriff's Office	62 (1040.3)	5 (83.8)	8 (129.8)	55 (901.6)
Sheridan County Sheriff's Office	40 (1286.6)	33 (976.3)	75 (2147.2)	37 (1088.2)
Sioux County Sheriff's Office	-- (-----)	31 (779.5)	5 (128.0)	29 (763.2)
Slope County Sheriff's Office	2 (151.2)	11 (850.7)	4 (307.7)	4 (307.7)
Stark County Sheriff's Office	32 (450.9)	26 (413.6)	53 (764.7)	55 (846.2)

Agency	Year 1973	1975	1977	1979
Dickinson Police Department	462 (3553.8)	449 (3350.7)	525 (4007.3)	724 (5171.4)
Steele County Sheriff's Office	1 (23.6)	1 (28.7)	13 (361.5)	
Stutsman County Sheriff's Office	54 (584.9)	85 (1131.5)	72 (1085.5)	60 (857.1)
Jamestown Police Department	635 (3968.7)	832 (5215.3)	691 (4113.1)	775 (4843.8)
Towner County Sheriff's Office	30 (645.6)	36 (787.1)	55 (1309.5)	41 (953.5)
Traill County Sheriff's Office	33 (353.5)	38 (406.6)	72 (1006.3)	61 (1129.6)
Hillsboro Police Department			22 (880.0)	34 (2125.0)
Mayville Police Department				27 (1000.0)
Walsh County Sheriff's Office	68 (640.4)	154 (1506.8)	123 (1116.6)	80 (740.7)
Grafton Police Department	143 (2381.3)	269 (4569.4)	208 (3533.2)	204 (3844.3)
Ward County Sheriff's Office	199 (641.9)	200 (785.8)	289 (1020.6)	220 (830.2)
Minot Police Department	1201 (3556.7)	1215 (3471.4)	1119 (3218.9)	1437 (4105.7)
Wells County Sheriff's Office	48 (627.1)	57 (774.7)	61 (1270.8)	54 (1125.0)
Harvey Police Department			28 (1217.4)	27 (1173.9)
Williams County Sheriff's Office	14 (172.4)	13 (186.1)	115 (1503.1)	179 (2355.3)
Williston Police Department	350 (3216.6)	281 (2420.9)	208 (1767.1)	273 (2313.6)

(For Population Statistics, See Appendix)

Index Crime by County

It may be helpful to review offense totals by county to gain an understanding of the geographical distribution of crime across the state.

Table XII displays index crime rates by county for the years 1972-1979. County crime rates were calculated from data from each reporting jurisdiction within each county. The counties are ranked annually by crime rate from one (highest) to 53 (lowest). Burleigh, Cass, Grand Forks, and Ramsey Counties have recorded the highest index crime rates in the state throughout the eight year period (see Table XII for actual numerical rank). The lower end of the scale has not been as clear cut over the years, although, in 1979, Hettinger, McHenry, Slope, and Steele were among the counties with the lowest crime rates.

TABLE XII

North Dakota Counties: Rank by Crime Rates

1972 - 1979

COUNTIES	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Adams	30 (503.7)	25 (645.9)	31 (672.5)	42 (423.5)	46 (275.0)	40 (578.9)	44 (324.3)	47 (405.4)
Barnes	5 (1381.9)	12 (1603.6)	14 (1321.9)	13 (1969.3)	10 (2284.7)	10 (2533.0)	9 (2430.7)	13 (1902.1)
Benson	21 (524.0)	30 (634.4)	17 (1067.2)	23 (802.2)	14 (1611.1)	20 (1559.5)	28 (1059.5)	32 (1059.5)
Billings	44 (334.7)	43 (252.7)	41 (252.3)	53 (0)	47 (260.9)	35 (796.5)	49 (272.7)	34 (1000.0)
Bottineau	33 (452.5)	34 (482.2)	46 (164.7)	40 (477.0)	21 (1178.6)	17 (1617.2)	15 (1704.1)	16 (1755.1)
Bowman	16 (654.3)	37 (400.2)	19 (1034.0)	18 (979.9)	34 (744.2)	6 (3200.0)	5 (3581.4)	8 (3043.5)
Burke	35 (419.9)	38 (371.3)	38 (300.5)	45 (374.3)	41 (460.0)	39 (681.8)	35 (744.2)	42 (651.2)
Burleigh	2 (1735.4)	3 (4049.2)	2 (4306.9)	3 (4169.3)	2 (5039.2)	2 (4850.7)	1 (4427.2)	1 (4718.2)
Cass	1 (1874.9)	2 (4329.9)	1 (4534.1)	2 (4312.9)	3 (4425.4)	3 (4159.8)	2 (3964.7)	2 (4469.2)
Cavalier	7 (1251.4)	4 (3184.8)	10 (2105.8)	11 (1976.9)	11 (1961.6)	31 (1194.7)	25 (1149.8)	17 (1741.6)
Dickey	50 (242.0)	47 (199.0)	42 (251.9)	29 (775.9)	33 (814.3)	46 (360.0)	36 (729.7)	40 (756.8)
Divide	38 (381.4)	36 (422.2)	43 (229.3)	48 (143.7)	51 (48.6)	47 (307.7)	52 (96.4)	44 (609.8)
Dunn	47 (304.9)	35 (480.8)	51 (65.8)	46 (314.3)	44 (346.8)	44 (367.3)	40 (604.2)	37 (916.7)
Eddy	18 (542.0)	16 (1180.2)	8 (2172.8)	14 (1747.0)	18 (1496.1)	11 (2274.0)	20 (1567.6)	20 (1486.5)
Emmons	39 (360.1)	40 (348.9)	34 (497.1)	38 (531.6)	37 (645.3)	41 (511.3)	41 (462.7)	31 (1074.6)
Foster	22 (523.6)	24 (646.5)	23 (706.2)	36 (628.7)	42 (386.7)	33 (953.5)	29 (1040.8)	21 (1469.4)
Golden Valley	12 (862.1)	15 (1297.1)	13 (1405.4)	12 (1972.9)	53 (0)	18 (1600.0)	31 (960.0)	30 (1080.0)
Grand Forks	3 (1703.4)	5 (3002.2)	5 (3383.5)	5 (3681.0)	5 (3625.2)	5 (3421.0)	4 (3650.5)	3 (4110.1)

COUNTIES	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Grant	48 (280.6)	42 (265.0)	20 (712.2)	35 (684.0)	27 (900.0)	16 (1665.9)	26 (1140.0)	23 (1300.0)
Griggs	27 (508.6)	21 (663.6)	21 (710.8)	32 (766.3)	39 (523.6)	51 (168.7)	45 (317.1)	33 (1048.1)
Hettinger	40 (358.5)	32 (603.6)	29 (686.3)	37 (533.7)	38 (596.2)	34 (872.3)	39 (617.0)	51 (136.4)
Kidder	31 (498.1)	22 (651.9)	26 (694.9)	24 (795.3)	25 (974.0)	22 (1428.6)	30 (1000.0)	22 (1325.6)
LaMoure	23 (521.5)	50 (68.3)	44 (210.2)	49 (116.6)	50 (88.0)	49 (209.0)	43 (338.2)	49 (308.9)
Logan	51 (96.0)	51 (46.3)	18 (1059.3)	16 (1263.5)	29 (872.6)	38 (750.0)	34 (750.0)	36 (925.0)
McHenry	19 (529.4)	45 (211.5)	45 (187.7)	39 (514.3)	20 (1257.1)	42 (505.9)	47 (302.3)	52 (81.4)
McIntosh	49 (263.9)	44 (248.1)	53 (36.7)	41 (474.4)	24 (976.1)	26 (1312.6)	32 (823.5)	43 (627.5)
McKenzie	28 (507.8)	29 (640.2)	35 (471.9)	26 (782.2)	17 (1532.5)	21 (1306.5)	14 (1720.6)	10 (2720.6)
McLean	13 (822.3)	18 (1002.1)	15 (1293.4)	10 (2151.5)	15 (1586.9)	19 (1584.3)	13 (2016.5)	14 (1835.9)
Mercer	17 (591.7)	48 (177.7)	37 (358.0)	33 (738.6)	40 (500.0)	36 (770.0)	37 (698.8)	41 (747.0)
Morton	8 (1176.2)	9 (2037.5)	9 (2154.5)	6 (2751.7)	7 (2785.7)	9 (2739.7)	8 (2542.0)	7 (3491.6)
Mountrail	46 (311.4)	41 (337.9)	48 (160.5)	43 (419.1)	43 (385.4)	43 (430.2)	42 (376.5)	46 (552.9)
Nelson	24 (519.5)	27 (641.1)	28 (689.4)	27 (780.3)	30 (857.2)	23 (1362.1)	33 (813.6)	45 (576.3)
Oliver	43 (337.5)	20 (695.7)	33 (546.4)	21 (937.9)	23 (1059.8)	24 (1360.0)	21 (1560.0)	24 (1280.0)
Pembina	32 (456.7)	33 (600.4)	36 (400.2)	20 (972.8)	22 (1171.5)	30 (1223.5)	22 (1387.4)	19 (1558.6)
Pierce	36 (392.2)	19 (802.8)	30 (672.6)	34 (702.4)	26 (951.9)	21 (1480.1)	18 (1615.4)	26 (1184.6)
Ramsey	4 (1616.2)	1 (4400.8)	3 (4260.4)	1 (5611.0)	1 (5083.0)	1 (5234.2)	3 (3673.9)	4 (4029.0)
Ransom	46 (321.0)	46 (200.0)	47 (160.8)	47 (192.9)	12 (1910.1)	25 (1342.9)	38 (690.1)	48 (382.1)

COUNTIES	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Renville	29 (505.2)	23 (651.6)	52 (54.5)	53 (0)	48 (183.7)	50 (189.2)	48 (197.3)	28 (1135.1)
Richland	42 (341.3)	11 (1817.2)	32 (578.0)	17 (1181.2)	13 (1665.8)	8 (2755.0)	12 (2021.5)	9 (2008.6)
Rolette	20 (529.1)	28 (640.3)	22 (709.3)	31 (772.4)	28 (879.5)	37 (759.7)	23 (1279.1)	15 (1769.2)
Sargent	15 (726.1)	17 (1040.3)	40 (281.1)	51 (83.8)	49 (116.4)	52 (129.8)	51 (98.4)	38 (901.6)
Sheridan	9 (998.1)	13 (1286.6)	16 (1161.7)	19 (976.3)	19 (1269.3)	13 (2147.2)	19 (1588.2)	29 (1088.2)
Sioux	53 (0)	53 (0)	23 (706.2)	28 (779.5)	36 (664.7)	53 (128.0)	50 (210.5)	39 (763.2)
Slope	41 (356.9)	49 (151.2)	49 (155.2)	22 (830.7)	45 (284.9)	47 (307.7)	46 (307.7)	50 (307.7)
Stark	34 (448.1)	7 (2458.2)	6 (2433.3)	8 (2412.9)	6 (3038.5)	7 (2885.4)	7 (2726.8)	5 (3800.0)
Steele	52 (71.9)	52 (23.6)	39 (296.7)	52 (28.7)	52 (27.7)	45 (361.5)	53 (0)	53 (0)
Stutsman	6 (1322.8)	6 (2730.8)	4 (3616.0)	4 (3908.0)	4 (3724.9)	5 (3256.1)	6 (3034.8)	6 (3630.4)
Towner	26 (513.9)	26 (645.6)	26 (694.9)	25 (787.1)	32 (831.0)	27 (1309.5)	16 (1697.7)	35 (953.5)
Traill	37 (382.8)	39 (353.5)	50 (148.7)	44 (406.6)	35 (702.0)	32 (973.6)	27 (1113.4)	25 (1257.7)
Walsh	14 (730.0)	14 (1269.3)	11 (1572.6)	7 (2626.2)	9 (2413.1)	14 (1958.2)	17 (1656.8)	18 (1680.5)
Ward	11 (942.9)	8 (2161.6)	7 (2270.7)	9 (2540.7)	8 (2724.3)	12 (2227.7)	10 (2378.9)	11 (2694.3)
Wells	25 (519.1)	31 (627.1)	25 (699.5)	30 (774.7)	31 (844.9)	29 (1253.5)	24 (1253.5)	27 (1140.8)
Williams	10 (974.4)	10 (1915.5)	12 (1502.6)	15 (1581.2)	16 (1541.3)	15 (1767.1)	11 (2113.4)	12 (2329.9)

(The Index Crime Rate per 100,000 population appears in parenthesis below each ranking.)

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Table X illustrates the percentages of total statewide reported index crimes contributed by each reporting jurisdiction. As could be expected, the major cities contribute the largest percentages of reported offenses. The table also shows the cumulative percentage. Over 75 percent of the 17,931 reported index offenses are contributed by 12 of the 76 reporting agencies. Conversely, 14 agency's contributions are needed to fill out the approximately 179 offenses making up the final percentage point.

TABLE X
North Dakota Crime Index Offenses:
Percent Contribution by Agency, 1979

Agency	# of Offenses	Percent Contribution	Cumulative Percent [1]
Fargo P.D.	3165	17.65	17.65
Grand Forks P.D.	2483	13.85	31.50
Bismarck P.D.	2448	13.65	45.15
Minot P.D.	1437	8.01	53.16
Jamestown P.D.	775	4.32	57.48
Mandan P.D.	741	4.13	61.61
Dickinson P.D.	724	4.04	65.65
Devils Lake P.D.	459	2.56	68.21
Wahpeton P.D.	437	2.44	70.65
West Fargo P.D.	337	1.88	72.53
Williston P.D.	273	1.52	74.05
Cass Co. S.O.	270	1.51	75.56
McLean Co. S.O.	235	1.31	76.87
Rolette Co. S.O.	230	1.28	78.15
Ward Co. S.O.	220	1.23	79.38
Grafton P.D.	204	1.14	80.52
Valley City P.D.	184	1.03	81.55
Williams Co. S.O.	179	1.00	82.55
Pembina Co. S.O.	173	.96	83.51
Bottineau Co. S.O.	172	.96	84.47
Grand Forks Co.S.O.	168	.94	85.41
Bowman P.D.	125	.70	86.11
Burleigh Co. S.O.	114	.64	86.75
Richland Co. S.O.	104	.58	87.33
Ramsey Co. S.O.	97	.54	87.87
Watford City P.D.	96	.54	88.41
Morton Co. S.O.	90	.50	88.91
Benson Co. S.O.	89	.50	89.41
McKenzie Co. S.O.	89	.50	89.91
Barnes Co. S.O.	88	.49	90.40
Langdon P.D.	83	.46	90.86
Walsh Co. S.O.	80	.45	91.31
Cavalier Co. S.O.	72	.40	91.71
Emmons Co. S.O.	72	.40	92.11
Grant Co. S.O.	65	.36	92.47
Mercer Co. S.O.	62	.35	92.82
Traill Co. S.O.	61	.34	93.16
Stutsman Co. S.O.	60	.33	93.49
Rugby P.D.	59	.33	93.82
Kidder Co. S.O.	57	.32	94.14
Dickey Co. S.O.	56	.31	94.45
Eddy Co. S.O.	55	.31	94.76
Sargent Co. S.O.	55	.31	95.07
Stark Co. S.O.	55	.31	95.38
Wells Co. S.O.	54	.30	95.68
Carrington P.D.	50	.27	95.95
Dunn Co. S.O.	44	.24	96.19
Griggs Co. S.O.	43	.23	96.42
Renville Co. S.O.	42	.23	96.65
Towner Co. S.O.	41	.23	96.88
Sheridan Co. S.O.	37	.21	97.09
Logan Co. S.O.	37	.21	97.30
Nelson Co. S.O.	34	.19	97.49
Hillsboro P.D.	34	.19	97.68
Mountrail Co. S.O.	33	.18	97.86
McIntosh Co. S.O.	32	.18	98.04
Oliver Co. S.O.	32	.18	98.22
Sioux Co. S.O.	29	.16	98.38
Burke Co. S.O.	28	.15	98.53
Golden Valley Co.S.O.	27	.15	98.68
Harvey P.D.	27	.15	98.83
Mayville P.D.	27	.15	98.98
Divide Co. S.O.	25	.14	99.12
Foster Co. S.O.	22	.12	99.24
LaMoure Co. S.O.	21	.12	99.36
Lisbon P.D.	19	.11	99.47
Pierce Co. S.O.	18	.10	99.57
Adams Co. S.O.	15	.08	99.65
Bowman Co. S.O.	15	.08	99.73
New Town P.D.	14	.08	99.81
Billings Co. S.O.	11	.06	99.87
McHenry Co. S.O.	7	.04	99.91
Ransom Co. S.O.	6	.03	99.94
Mettinger Co. S.O.	5	.03	99.97
Slope Co. S.O.	4	.02	99.99
Steele Co. S.O.	0	.00	99.99

[1] Percentages do not add to 100 due to rounding.

Table XI ranks the various agencies from highest to lowest by UCR crime index rate. The table provides two (2) sets of rankings; the left column ranks the 53 county sheriffs' offices while the right column of the table ranks the 23 municipal police departments directly participating in the program.

TABLE XI
Crime Index Rates: Ranking by Agency
North Dakota, 1979

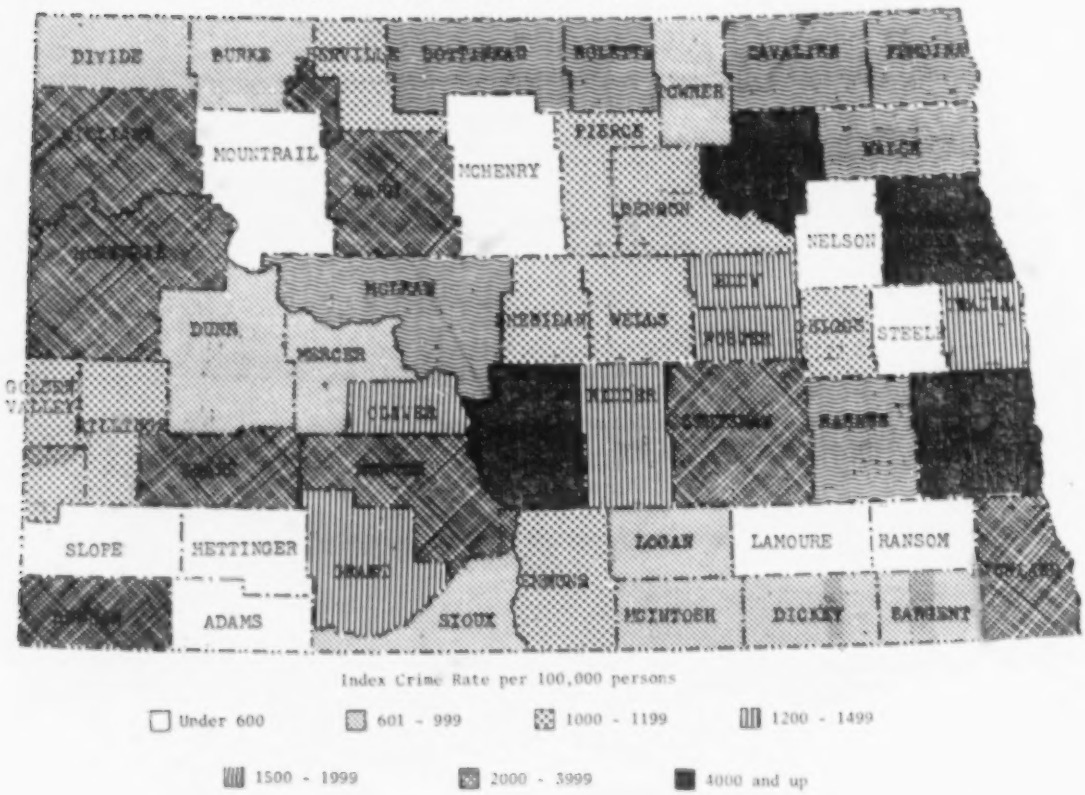
Sheriff's Offices			Police Departments		
Agency	Rate[1]	Rank	Agency	Rate[1]	Rank
Williams Co.	2355.3	1	Devils Lake	5884.6	1
McKenzie Co.	2225.0	2	Grand Forks	5708.0	2
McLean Co.	1835.9	3	Bismarck	5563.6	3
Rolette Co.	1769.2	4	Fargo	5456.9	4
Bottineau Co.	1755.1	5	Bowman	5434.8	5
Ramsey Co.	1616.7	6	Wahpeton	5202.4	6
Pembina Co.	1558.6	7	Mandan	5181.8	7
Cass Co.	1500.0	8	Dickinson	5171.4	8
Eddy Co.	1486.5	9	Jamestown	4843.8	9
Barnes Co.	1375.0	10	Minot	4105.7	10
Kidder Co.	1325.6	11	West Fargo	4011.9	11
Grant Co.	1300.0	12	Watford City	3428.6	12
Oliver Co.	1280.0	13	Grafton	3344.3	13
Cavalier Co.	1161.3	14	Langdon	3074.1	14
Renville Co.	1135.1	15	Valley City	2329.1	15
Traill Co.	1129.6	16	Williston	2313.6	16
Wells Co.	1125.0	17	Rugby	1787.9	17
Burleigh Co.	1106.8	18	Harvey	1173.9	18
Sheridan Co.	1088.2	19	Hillsboro	1129.6	19
Golden Valley Co.	1080.0	20	Carrington	1000.0	20
Emmons Co.	1074.6	21	Mayville	1000.0	21
Benson Co.	1059.5	22	Lisbon	863.6	22
Griggs Co.	1048.8	23	New Town	777.8	23
Richland Co.	1019.6	24			
Foster Co.	1000.0	25			
Billings Co.	1000.0	26			
Towner Co.	953.5	27			
Morton Co.	947.4	28			
Logan Co	925.0	29			
Dunn Co.	916.7	30			
Sargent Co.	901.6	31			
Stutsman Co.	857.1	32			
Stark Co.	846.2	33			
Ward Co.	830.2	34			
Grand Forks Co.	800.0	35			
Sioux Co.	763.2	36			
Dickey Co.	756.8	37			
Mercer Co.	747.0	38			
Walsh Co.	740.7	39			
Bowman Co.	652.2	40			
Burke Co.	651.2	41			
McIntosh Co.	627.5	42			
Divide Co.	609.8	43			
Nelson Co.	576.3	44			
Pierce Co.	562.5	45			
Mountrail Co.	492.5	46			
Adams Co.	405.4	47			
LaMoure Co.	308.8	48			
Slope Co.	307.7	49			
Ransom Co.	122.4	50			
Hettinger Co.	106.4	51			
McHenry Co.	81.4	52			
Steele Co.	0	53			

[1] Rate per 100,000 population.

Figure XV presents a geographical distribution of reported index crime by county for 1979. In order to create the map, numbers of reported offenses in each jurisdiction within the county were added and a rate per 100,000 population was calculated for each county. The rates were then grouped into seven categories.

FIGURE XV

A Geographical Distribution of Crime in N.Dak. by County: 1979



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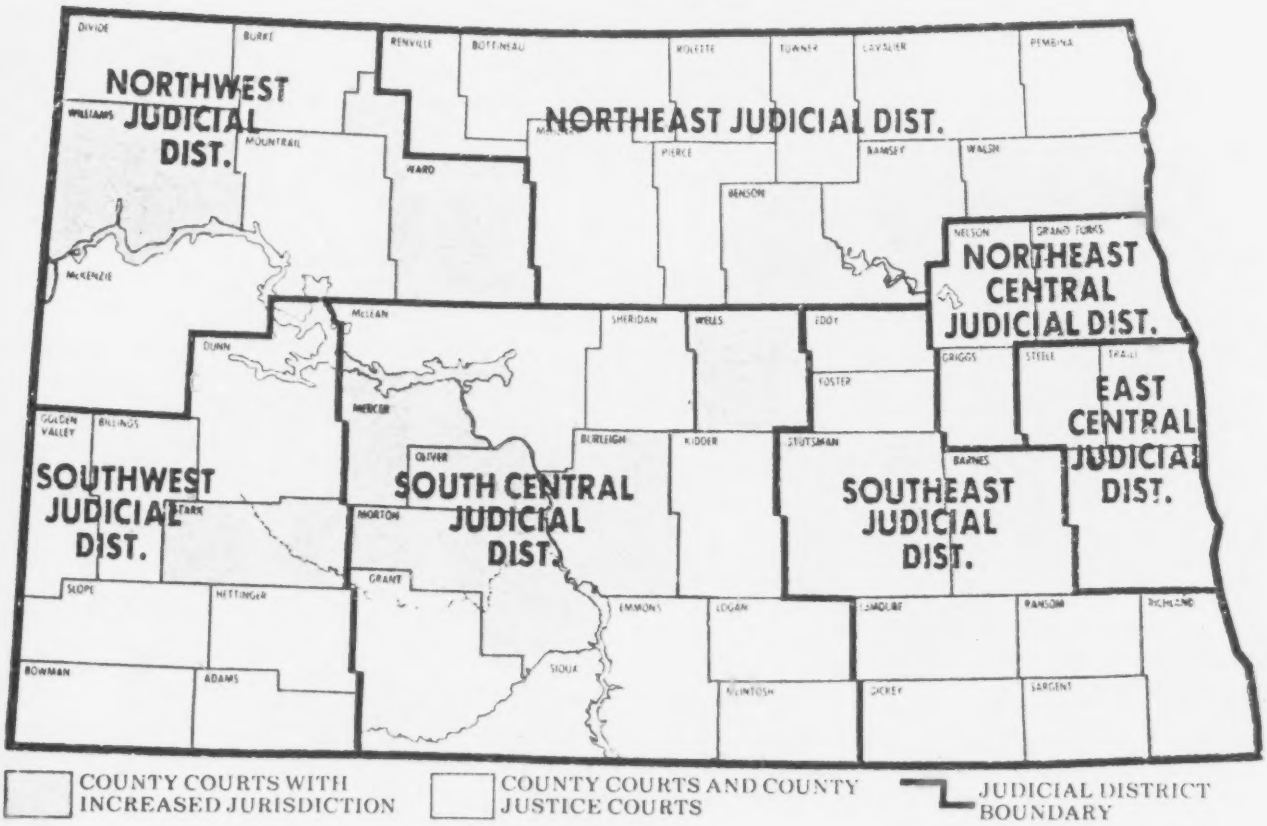
Index Crime by Judicial District

For the sake of ready comparison with data on court caseloads published by the Office of the State Court Administrator, crime index rates have been calculated for the judicial districts. Since general re-districting occurred in mid-1978, only the 1979 data is presented here.

FIGURE XVI

Judicial Districts of North Dakota



Judicial District	Population	No. of Index Offenses	Index Crime Rate	Rank
Northwest	104,600	2394	2288.7	5
Northeast	105,000	1826	1739.0	7
Southwest	43,200	1025	2372.7	4
South Central	117,300	3301	2814.2	3
Southeast	91,900	1932	2102.3	6
Northeast Central	74,500	2728	3661.7	2
East Central	97,700	3894	3985.7	1

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It is interesting to note that neither geographic nor population sizes seem to have a great deal of impact on the number of offenses occurring. The Northeast Central and East Central Districts, which have the two highest crime rates, occupy the smallest areas and have only mid-level populations among the districts; conversely the Northeast District has the lowest crime rate but the largest area and the second largest population of the districts.

Another way to view these crime index offenses involves using a pie chart to allow us to see the relative portion contributed by each district:

Index Offenses:
Percent of Statewide Total Contributed by each Judicial District, 1979

Index Crimes by Rural-Urban Area

Another interesting way to look at the crime index offenses in relation to their origin, is to compare rural and urban areas of the state. Prior to examining the data presented in this section, we must first arrive at an understanding as to which areas of the state will be considered "urban" and which "rural". For the sake of comparison with previously released data, these definitions have been somewhat arbitrarily determined.

Urban - That portion of the state and it's population which reside in the following 15 major cities:

Bismarck	Grafton	Rugby
Devils Lake	Jamestown	Valley City
Dickinson	Langdon	West Fargo
Fargo	Mandan	Wahpeton
Grand Forks	Minot	Williston

Rural - That portion of the state and it's population which reside outside of the major cities as listed in the definition of "urban".

In order to calculate crime rates for these areas, the UCR Program reports submitted by the jurisdictions within each area were used. The North Dakota urban index crime rate, based on the UCR offense reports submitted by the police departments of the 15 cities included within that definition and their combined populations, was 4910.7 offenses per 100,000 population in 1979, while the rural rate for the same period was 1093.9 per 100,000 population. This rural crime rate was based on the UCR Program reports submitted by the 53 county sheriffs plus those submitted by the police departments of 8 cities which began participating in the program in 1979 (Bowman, Carrington, Harvey, Hillsboro, Lisbon, Mayville, New Town, and Watford City).

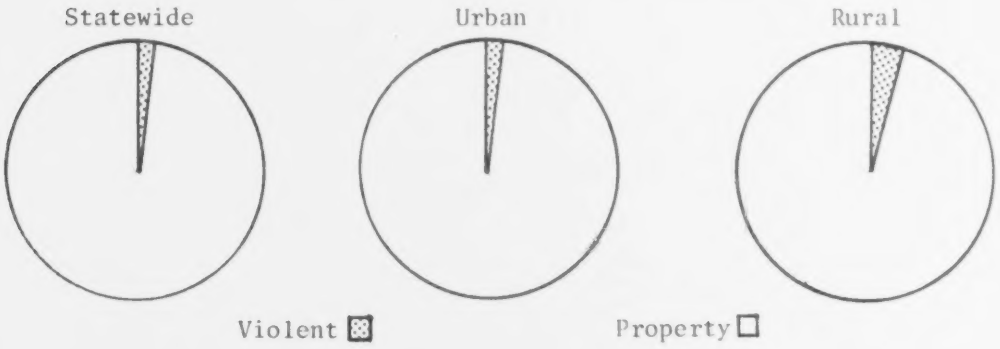
There has been little change seen in the proportion of index offenses reported by rural or by urban areas. While just over one-half of the states' population is "rural", the rural areas contribute only approximately one-quarter of the index offenses:

Table XIII
North Dakota: Rural-Urban Crime Distribution

	Urban Percent of State Total				Rural Percent of State Total			
	1976	1977	1978	1979	1976	1977	1978	1979
Population	41%	43%	43%	43%	59%	57%	57%	57%
Index Crime	73%	75%	76%	77%	27%	25%	24%	23%

As discussed previously, the statewide ratio of property crime to violent crime has remained approximately 98:2 throughout the decade. The urban property/violent crime ratio has approximated the state ratio since the inception of the data collection (1976 for rural-urban). In contrast, the rural ratio has remained at about 96:4 showing a higher proportion of violent crime in rural North Dakota than in the rest of the state.

Figure XVII
Proportional Display:
Violent Crime Index Rate to Property Crime Index Rate



Rural Crime in North Dakota - The population of rural North Dakota declined 1.3 percent from 1976 to 1979. During this same time, the Index Crime Rate declined 5.8 percent (see Table XIV). By dividing the Crime Index into Violent and Property-type offenses (as discussed in the material presented previously entitled "UCR Crime Index Offenses"), we find a 27.2 percent drop in the rural North Dakota violent crime rate from 1976 to 1979 while property crime declined 4.8 percent during the same period.

Table XIV
Index of Crime: Rural North Dakota

	Population	Index Crime[1]	Violent[1]	Property Crime[1]
1976	381,773	4434 (1161.4)	216 (56.6)	4218 (1104.8)
1977	373,594	4050 (1084.1)	141 (37.7)	3909 (1046.3)
1978	373,700	3821 (1022.5)	176 (47.1)	3645 (975.4)
1979	376,800	4122 (1093.9)	157 (41.2)	3965 (1052.3)
Percent Change in Rate:				
	76-77	-6.6	-33.4	-5.2
	77-78	-5.7	+24.9	-6.7
	78-79	+7.0	-12.5	+7.9
	76-79	-5.8	-27.2	-4.8

[1] Rate per 100,000 population appears in parentheses below the actual number of reported offenses in each category for each year.

Urban Crime in North Dakota - The population of urban North Dakota (as defined previously in this chapter) increased by just under 20,000 persons or 7.6 percent from 1976 to 1979. In contrast to the decline in the index crime rate experienced by rural North Dakota, urban North Dakota suffered an increase of 9.3 percent during this period. The urban violent crime rate dropped 9.4 percent while the urban property crime rate rose 9.7 percent from 1976 to 1979.

Table XV
Index of Crime: Urban North Dakota

	Population	Index Crime[1]	Violent Crime[1]	Property Crime[1]
1976	261,227	11,733 (4491.5)	246 (94.2)	11,487 (4397.3)
1977	279.406	12,155 (4350.3)	292 (104.5)	11,863 (4245.8)
1978	279,300	11,774 (4215.5)	260 (93.1)	11,514 (4122.4)
1979	281,200	13,809 (4910.7)	240 (85.3)	13,569 (4825.4)
Percent Change in Rate:				
	76-77	-3.1	+10.9	-3.4
	77-78	-3.1	-10.9	-2.9
	78-79	16.5	-8.4	17.1
	76-79	9.3	-9.4	9.7

[1] Rate per 100,000 population appears in parentheses beneath the actual number of reported offenses in each category for each year.

ARRESTS AND CLEARANCES

Generally a crime is "cleared" when a law enforcement agency has identified the offender, has sufficient evidence to charge, and actually takes him into custody. In exceptional instances, crimes may be cleared when some element beyond police control precludes taking the offender into custody. Examples of circumstances resulting in exceptional clearances include the death of a offender (suicide, deathbed confession, etc.) or the refusal of a victim to prosecute after an offender is identified. It should be noted that the arrest of one person may clear several crimes and, conversely, several persons may be arrested in the process of clearing one crime.

Although primarily an indication of law enforcement activity, the number of arrests does provide us with a limited profile of the perpetrators of crime, the offenders, especially for those crimes which have high clearance rates. Differing arrest practices, policies and enforcement emphases among agencies influence the volume of arrests for various offenses, particularly those against public order as vagrancy, disorderly conduct, and related violations. However, arrests for serious crimes, eg. robbery or burglary, are more likely to be consistent and uniform thoughout all jurisdictions across the state.

The UCR Program requires that an arrest be counted on each separate occasion an individual is taken into custody, or cited. Although several charges may be lodged against a person at the time of arrest, only one arrest is counted for each separate time he is taken into custody.

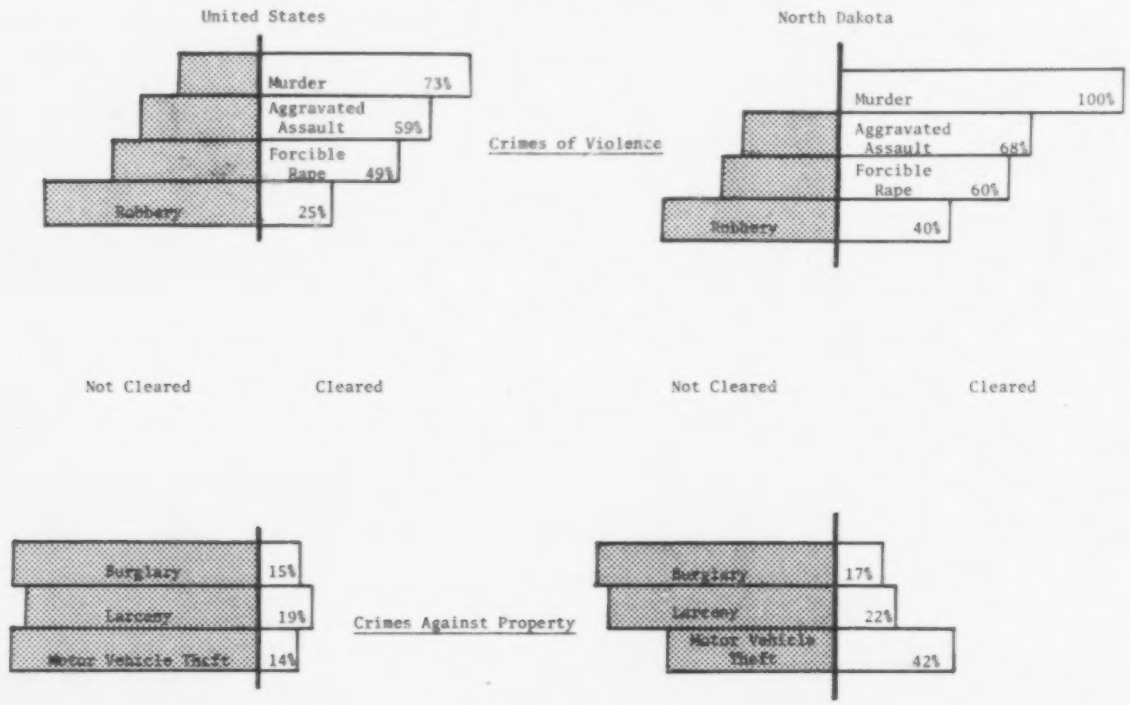
In this section, we will examine the amounts and types of crime cleared by arrest or exceptional means. We will look at arrestees as a portion of the total statewide population; and review arrests as compared to numbers of known offenses.

Clearances

In 1979, law enforcement agencies reported that 20 percent of the index crimes were cleared nationally. In North Dakota, over 23 percent of the index crimes reported in 1979 were cleared, keeping the state somewhat above the national rate. Clearance statistics were first reported statewide in 1977 in the UCR Program and North Dakota has maintained clearances of approximately 24 percent since 1977. Nationally, clearances were reported at 21 percent in 1977 and have dropped slightly to 20 percent since that time.

Figure XVIII presents 1979 clearance data for reported index offenses for North Dakota and the United States. In looking at this type of figure, we must remember that clearances are based on offenses known to law enforcement agencies. Some offenses are less likely to be reported than others, as noted in previous discussion. Therefore, a clearance rate for a crime like Forcible Rape might be found to be considerably different were all such offenses reported to law enforcement.

Figure XVIII
Crimes Cleared by Arrests: 1979



Although the percentage of clearances reported annually has remained about the same at just under one-quarter of the index offenses reported, the number of offenses cleared has varied from year to year in the state:

	1977	1978	1979
Number of Offenses	16,205	16,170	17,931
Number of Clearances	4,066	3,969	4,139

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As can be seen in Figure XVIII, clearances for crimes against property are generally lower than those for crimes against persons. It is assumed that this is the result of several factors, including the facts that more intense investigative efforts are often afforded to violent crimes and that there seem to be fewer available witnesses who can identify the perpetrators in instances of property crime. In North Dakota, 62.9 percent of reported violent crimes were cleared in 1979. Clearances for violent crimes ranged from 40 percent for Robbery to 100 percent for Murder. In contrast, only 22.2 percent of reported property crimes were cleared in the state in 1979, ranging from 17 percent for Burglaries to 42 percent for Motor Vehicle Thefts. All of the national clearance figures are lower than are North Dakota's (see Figure XVIII).

Juvenile Clearances - Only persons under 18 years of age were the offenders in just over one-third (34 percent) of the cleared index offenses in North Dakota in 1979. Nationally, juveniles were offenders in 27 percent of the cleared crime index offenses in 1979. Youths under 18 years of age were responsible for 12 percent of the cleared violent crimes nationally and 13 percent in North Dakota. Property crime clearances showed youths involved in 31 pereent nationally and 36 percent in North Dakota (see Table XVI).

Table XVI
Index Offenses Involving Juveniles
North Dakota, 1979

	Number Reported Offenses	Number Cleared	Number Cleared Involving Juveniles
Index Offenses	17,931	4,139	1,415
Violent Offenses	397	250	32
Property Offenses	17,534	3,889	1,383

Percentages of clearances involving juveniles have remained similar for the three years for which data is available. In 1977, 36 percent of cleared index crimes involved juveniles and in 1978, 33 percent involved persons under 18 years of age. As was previously discussed, 34 percent of cleared index offenses involved juveniles in 1979.

Arrests

In the UCR Program, the local law enforcement agencies report all arrests, whether for Crime Index Offenses or not. Therefore, we have arrest data for many offense-types for which there is no corresponding data on number of offenses, etc.. That arrest data is reported here in order to allow for both a more complete review of the numbers and types of persons arrested and a potentially representative look at other offenses occurring in the state.

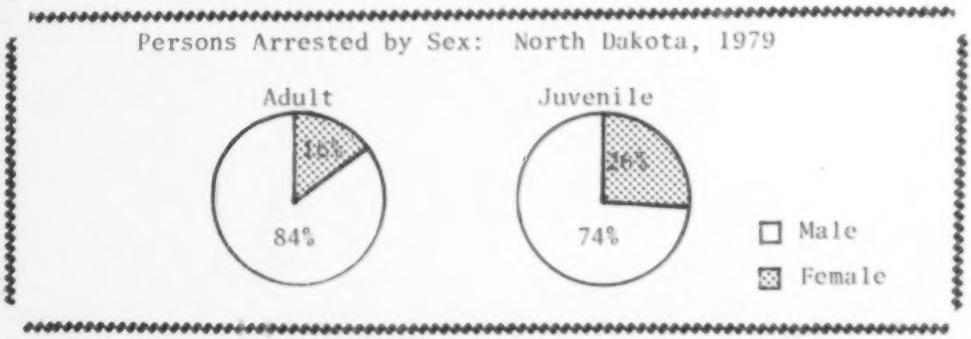
There were 25,688 arrests reported by North Dakota law enforcement agencies in 1979. The FBI estimates that over 10.2 million arrests were effected by law enforcement agencies across the country for all criminal infractions other than traffic violations.

Nationally, the arrest rate per 1000 inhabitants in 1979 was 46 as compared to 30 per 1000 in North Dakota. The Crime Index Arrest Rate per 100,000 population in 1979 was:

United States	1,057
North Central States	856
North Dakota	610

Of the 25,688 arrests reported by North Dakota law enforcement agencies, 26 percent or 6,707 were arrests of persons under 18 years of age (juveniles), while the remaining 18,981 were arrests of adults, persons 18 and older. Only 18 percent (4,730) of total arrests were females, the remaining 82 percent (20,958) being male.

Looking separately at adult and juvenile arrests, we find the following breakdown with regard to sex of the arrestee:



Males represent 84% (15,984) of the total adult arrests with females making up the remaining 16% or 2,997 arrests. Within the juvenile arrests, males again represent a large share with 4,974 arrests or 74%, while 1,733 female arrests were reported for 26 percent of the total juvenile arrests.

Table XVII presents a further breakdown of arrests in North Dakota by age and by offense for 1979. The majority of arrests, 10,852 or 42 percent were of persons 18-24 years of age. Nationally, approximately 30 percent of arrests are of persons in this age category.

[1] Illinois, Indiana Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

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Table XVII
Persons Arrested by Offense & Age
North Dakota, 1979

Offense	10 and Under	11-14	15-17	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 and Over	Total by Offense Juveniles	Adults	Total
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter			1	6	1								1	1	8	9
Negligent Manslaughter				5	2	2									7	7
Forcible Rape		2	6	12	4	1	1						2	8	23	31
Robbery		1	6	17	1	1	5							7	22	29
Aggravated Assault		7	17	44	32	8	11	5	3	1				24	104	128
Burglary	4	80	162	205	28	15	9	1	1					246	257	503
Larceny/Theft	112	515	848	921	192	107	77	52	49	44	34	21	40	1475	1537	3013
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	50	131	578	14	12	3	3	1		1			183	117	300
Other Assaults		21	59	112	61	32	20	10	15	9	3	3	1	80	264	344
Arson		5	8	8	3		2	1				1	1	15	16	29
Forgery & Counterfeiting		7	29	56	16	11	3	3	2	6				36	97	133
Fraud	1	7	23	669	361	245	161	14	52	31	25	7	4	31	1649	1680
Embezzlement			2				2		1					2	3	5
Stolen Property	5	25	44	37	10	6	2	3	1		1			74	60	134
Vandalism	37	118	207	69	12	3	2	1		1			1	362	89	451
Weapons-Carrying, Possessing, etc.		18	20	26	8	6	7			1				38	48	86
Prostitution & Commercialized Vice					2										2	2
Sex Offenses	1	2	5	16	15	1	4	3	3	1		2	3	8	48	56
Drug Abuse Violation		47	291	676	158	21	9	2						338	846	1184
Gambling				5	1										6	6
Offenses Against Family & Children		1	3	13	14	16	12	12	5	5	5	3		4	85	89
Driving under the influence		2	159	1628	777	526	386	306	260	227	159	120	100	161	4489	4650
Liquor Laws	4	66	1642	4087	308	103	69	37	34	28	10	10	14	1712	4700	6412
Disorderly Conduct	9	41	177	507	192	129	67	53	53	27	25	24	21	227	1098	1325
Vagrancy				2	8	2		5	3	3	3	4	2		30	30
All Others (Ex. Traffic)	39	140	365	1641	673	345	236	181	101	84	47	37	20	541	3365	3909
Suspicion	2	15	33	9	1	1								50	11	61
Curfew & Loitering	27	123	369											519		519
Runaways	3	158	405											566		566
Total by Age Group	246	1449	5012	10852	2874	1591	1086	775	582	468	313	232	210	6707	18981	25688

We have found that 6,707 of the total 25,688 arrests reported in 1979 were arrests of juveniles. In 1977, 16,915 adults and 5,887 juveniles were reported arrested for a total of 22,802 arrests statewide. A total of 23,550 arrests were reported in 1978, 17,500 adults and 6,050 juveniles. Thus we find that although the number of arrests has risen each year, the ratio of adult to juvenile arrestees has remained constant at 74:26.

Another way to review arrests is by racial/ethnic categories as found in Table XVIII.

Table XVIII
North Dakota Arrests by Race, 1979

Race	Adult	Juvenile	Total Number	Total Percent
White	17,252	6,384	23,636	92.0
Negro	95	16	111	.4
Indian	1,447	288	1,736	6.8
Other	187	19	206	.8
			25,688	100.0

PROPERTY LOSSES TO CRIME

In this section we will take a brief look at types of property lost to crime, dollar value of that property, and percentage of recovery. This type of data has been collected only since 1977 in the statewide UCR program.

Property Loss

Property loss to crime is an ever growing problem. Table XIX lists the dollar value of reported property losses and recoveries for the three years for which data is available. The table also shows the percentage of recovery annually. As can be seen, dollar value of stolen property is rising annually, however, the amounts recovered are increasing more rapidly each year than the amounts stolen so that we see an annual percentage gain in recovery of stolen property.

Table XIX

Property Losses to Crime: North Dakota

Year	Value of Property		Percent Recovered
	Stolen	Recovered	
1977	$4,647,442	$2,181,163	47
1978	5,969,383	2,790,073	48
1979	7,053,153	3,568,907	51

Table XX shows value of stolen property by offense type. The table also gives an average dollar value per offense.

Table XX
Property Stolen by Offense
North Dakota, 1979

Offense Type	Number of Offenses	Dollar Value of Stolen Property	Average Dollar Value per Offense
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	7	$ 12	$ 2
Forcible Rape	36	0	0
Robbery			
Highway	22	588	27
Commercial House	15	2,976	198
Gas or Service Station	1	2,000	2,000
Chain Store	6	1,322	220
Residence	5	1,371	274
Bank	3	18,853	6,284
Miscellaneous	14	1,579	113
Total Robbery	66	28,689	435
Burglary			
Residence			
Night	670	199,107	297
Day	254	99,495	392
Unknown	555	193,864	349
Total Residence	1,479	492,466	333
Non-Residence			
Night	1,091	448,307	411
Day	67	20,145	301
Unknown	375	157,038	419
Total Non-Residence	1,533	625,490	403
Total Burglary	3,012	1,117,956	371
Larceny/Theft			
Pocket-Picking	22	2,101	96
Purse-Snatching	154	8,672	56
Shoplifting	1,650	42,366	26
From Motor Vehicles	2,164	456,022	211
Motor Vehicle Parts & Accessories	2,889	439,915	152
Bicycles	2,101	184,100	88
From Buildings	2,081	629,229	302
From Coin-Operated Machines	138	14,216	103
All Other	2,242	1,029,252	459
Total Larceny/Theft	13,441	2,805,873	209
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,068	3,101,097	2,904
GRAND TOTAL	17,630	7,053,627	400

Table XXI provides a breakdown of value of reported stolen and recovered property by type of property for 1979 for the state.

Table XXI
Property Stolen and Recovered
North Dakota, 1979

Type of Property	Dollar Value of Property Stolen	Dollar Value of Property Recovered	Percent Recovered
Currency, Notes, etc.	$ 402,806	$ 85,765	21%
Jewelry & Precious Metals	221,816	32,264	15
Clothing and Furs	96,174	22,245	23
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	3,129,608	2,747,813	88
Office Equipment	31,093	7,317	24
TVs, Radios, Cameras, etc.	518,984	97,989	19
Firearms	128,184	41,726	33
Household Goods	160,437	22,687	14
Consumable Goods	87,006	17,989	21
Livestock	155,662	50,200	32
Miscellaneous	2,118,562	442,897	21
GRAND TOTAL	7,053,153	3,568,907	51%

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

North Dakota Population by Reporting Jurisdictions, 1979

Adams County	3,700
Barnes County	6,400
Valley City	7,900
Benson County	8,400
Billings County	1,100
Bottineau County	9,800
Bowman County	2,300
Bowman	2,300
Burke County	4,300
Burleigh County	10,300
Bismarck	44,000
Cass County	18,000
Fargo	58,000
West Fargo	8,400
Cavalier County	6,200
Langdon	2,700
Dickey County	5,500
Ellendale	1,900
Divide County	4,100
Dunn County	4,800
Eddy County	3,700
Emmons County	6,700
Foster County	2,200
Carrington	2,700
Golden Valley County	2,500
Grand Forks County	21,000
Grand Forks	43,500
Grant County	5,000
Griggs County	4,100
Hettinger County	4,700
Kidder County	4,300
LaMoure County	6,800
Logan County	4,000
McHenry County	8,600
McIntosh County	5,100
McKenzie County	4,000
Watford City	2,800
McLean County	12,800
Mercer County	8,300
Morton County	9,500
Mandan	14,300
Mountrail County	6,700
New Town	1,800
Nelson County	5,900
Oliver County	2,500
Pembina County	11,100
Pierce County	3,200
Rugby	3,300
Ramsey County	6,000
Devils Lake	7,800
Ransom County	4,900
Lisbon	2,200
Renville County	3,700
Richland County	10,200
Wahpeton	8,400
Rolette County	13,000
Sargent County	6,100
Sheridan County	3,400
Sioux County	3,800
Slope County	1,300
Stark County	6,500
Dickinson	14,000
Steele County	3,600
Stutsman County	7,000
Jamestown	16,000
Towner County	4,300
Traill County	5,400
Hillsboro	1,600
Mayville	2,700
Walsh County	10,800
Grafton	6,100
Ward County	26,500
Minot	35,000
Wells County	4,800
Harvey	2,300
Williams County	7,600
Williston	11,800
State Total	658,000

APPENDIX B

OFFENSES IN UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

Offenses in Uniform Crime Reporting are divided into two groupings designated as Part I and Part II crimes. Information on the number of Part I offenses known to law enforcement, the number cleared by arrest or exceptional means, and the number of persons arrested is reported monthly. Arrest data are reported for Part I and Part II offenses. The Crime Index is composed of offenses 1-7 with the exception as noted in 1. below.

Part I offenses are as follows:

1. Criminal homicide. — a. Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, and justifiable homicides are excluded. Justifiable homicides are limited to: (1) the killing of a felon by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty; and (2) the killing of a felon by a private citizen. b. Manslaughter by negligence: the killing of another person through gross negligence. Excludes traffic fatalities. While manslaughter by negligence is a Part I crime, it is not included in the Crime Index.

2. Forcible rape. — The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Included are rapes by force and attempts or assaults to rape. Statutory offenses (no force used—victim under age of consent) are excluded.

3. Robbery. — The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

4. Aggravated assault. — An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Simple assaults are excluded.

5. Burglary—breaking or entering. — The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted forcible entry is included.

6. Larceny-theft (except motor vehicle theft). — The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles or automobile accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article which is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, worthless checks, etc., are excluded.

7. Motor vehicle theft. — The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle is self-propelled and runs on the surface and not on rails. Specifically excluded from this category are motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment.

8. Arson. — Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

The Part II offenses are:

9. Other assaults (simple). — Assaults or attempted assaults where no weapon was used or which did not result in serious or aggravated injury to the victim.

10. Forgery and counterfeiting. — Making, altering, uttering, or possessing, with intent to defraud, anything false which is made to appear true. Attempts are included.

11. Fraud. — Fraudulent conversion and obtaining money or property by false pretenses. Included are larceny by bailee and bad checks except forgeries and counterfeiting.

12. Embezzlement. — Misappropriation or misapplication of money or property entrusted to one's care, custody, or control.

13. Stolen property; buying, receiving, possessing. — Buying, receiving, and possessing stolen property, including attempts.

14. Vandalism. — Willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement, or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without consent of the owner or person having custody or control.

15. Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc. — All violations of regulations or statutes controling the carrying, using, possessing, furnishing, and manufacturing of deadly weapons or silencers. Included are attempts.

16. Prostitution and commercialized vice. — Sex offenses of a commercialized nature, such as prostitution, keeping a bawdy house, procuring, or transporting women for immoral purposes. Attempts are included.

17. Sex offenses (except forcible rape, prostitution, and commercialized vice). —Statutory rape and offenses against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like. Attempts are included.

18. Drug abuse violations. — State and local offenses relating to narcotic drugs, such as unlawful possession, sale, use, growing and manufacturing of narcotic drugs.

19. Gambling. — Promoting, permitting, or engaging in illegal gambling.

20. Offenses against the family and children. — Nonsupport, neglect, desertion, or abuse of family and children.

21. Driving under the influence. — Driving or operating any vehicle or common carrier while drunk or under the influence of liquor or narcotics.

22. Liquor laws. — State or local liquor law violations, except "drunkenness" (offense 23) and "driving under the influence" (offense 21). Federal violations are excluded.

23. Drunkenness. — Drunkenness or intoxication. Excluded is "driving under the influence" (offense 21).

24. Disorderly conduct. — Breach of the peace.

25. Vagrancy. — Vagabondage, begging, loitering, etc.

26. All other offenses. — All violations of state or local laws, except offenses 1-25 and traffic offenses.

27. Suspicion. — No specific offense; suspect released without formal charges being placed.

28. Curfew and loitering laws. — Offenses relating to violation of local curfew or loitering ordinances where such laws exist.

29. Runaways. — Limited to juveniles taken into protective custody under provisions of local statutes.